MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JUNE 1983

Lebanon

Political Developments — The Chamber of Deputies' approval of the ratification of the agreement with Israel "vividly and truly" expresses the Lebanese people's aspirations and determination to liberate their homeland, President Amin al-Jumayyil said during the 15 June Cabinet session, according to Beirut radio. Many of those who expressed objections or reservations about the agreement did so out of the same consideration that prompted its supporters — a "unanimous desire" to liberate Lebanon from all foreign forces — the president said and added th .. the differences in views have been confined only to ways of liberation and restoration of sovereignty.

Meanwhile, in a commentary criticizing the Lebanese approval of the agreement, as reported by Damascus radio, the Syrian paper *Ath-Thawrah* said this presented the Lebanese nationalist resistance with a new task that called not only for dealing blows against the Israeli occupiers, but also for "enlarging the circle of activities to include those who deal with Israel at all levels."

In another development Saudi Information Minister 'Ali Hasan ash-Sha'ir arrived in Lebanon on a "private visit" during which he intends to meet with Lebanese leaders, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The Saudi minister affirmed that "intensive" contacts are continuing to arrive at a solution to the problems facing the area.

Security Situation — Several bombings directed against various business establishments took place in Beirut during the past 24 hours, Radio Monte Carlo and Beirut radio reported. One attack was directed against a building housing several foreign news agencies. Meanwhile, Israeli troops continued to keep the village of Dayr Qanun in complete isolation for the 6th day in their search for the perpetrators of an ambush in which three IDF soldiers died, AFP reported. Village residents claimed that 200 people have been arrested, but Israeli military sources denied this and said only a dozen suspects have been detained, according to AFP.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat ended the first leg of his inspection tour in Al-Biqa' and left for Tripoli, Lebanon, where the Fatah Revolutionary Council session is expected to convene soon, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Radio Monte Carlo, citing Palestinian sources in Damascus, reported that the Fatah rebels have been invited to participate in the Revolutionary Council meeting. Meanwhile, Fatah dissident leader Nimr Salih in Damascus issued a statement warning against any meetings between Palestinian officials and representatives of the Lebanese authorities, according to another Radio Monte Carlo report. Stressing that any promises given to the Lebanese authorities do not bind the Fatah movement, he said any contact with them is a deviation from the decisions of Fatah and the Palestinian command. The Palestinian military presence in Lebanon is not subject to promises given to the U.S. Administration by those who are mere "deviationist Palestinian symbols," Nimr Salih added and concluded his statement by calling for more effective measures to redress the revolution's course and deter the deviationist forces whom he described as "U.S. agents."

In another development 'Arafat met with CPSU Central Committee member Yevgeniy Primakov, a senior Soviet expert on Middle East affairs, Aden Voice of Palestine radio reported. Primakov delivered a "special" message from the Soviet leaders to 'Arafat.

Israel

Despite a passionate plea by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, the Knesset defeated 56 to 50 a motion submitted by the Alignment and the Shinuy factions to establish a commission of inquiry to investigate the conduct of the Cabinet during the war in Lebanon, Jerusalem and IDF radios reported.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said the IDF will not withdraw unilaterally from Lebanon but did not rule out the possibility of a redeployment of Israeli forces there, Jerusalem radio reported. If redeployment is decided, Arens said, the United States and Lebanon will have to prevent an infiltration by hostile forces into areas evacuated by the IDF.

Egypt

A new round of negotiations between Israel and Egypt over the disputed Tabah zone cannot get under way until there is agreement on a site for the talks, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said in an interview with AFP. 'Ali said that Israel was insisting on Jerusalem as the venue for the fifth round of talks; however, Egypt does not recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Iraq

Saddam on USSR, Iran — Iraq is "ready and willing" to improve and develop relations with the Soviet Union "in the interest of both nations," President Saddam Husayn told a group of visiting Italian journalists, according to ANSA. Husayn also reiterated Iraq's readiness to end the war with Iran and asked Italy and Europe to support his efforts for peace, the report said.

Message to Jordan — Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz arrived on a brief visit to Amman where he delivered a message to King Husayn from President Saddam Husayn, INA and Amman television reported. The Iraqi minister said his visit is within the context of coordination and consultation between the two countries on bilateral relations, the Arab situation, and international issues of mutual interest.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Fatah Committee, Councils Plan Meetings

JN151226 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Excerpts] The two highest Fatah bodies are expected to meet somewhere in Lebanon within the next 2 days.

In Damascus, Fatah Central Committee will convene within the next 24 hours. This will be followed by two other meetings by the Fatah Revolutionary Council and the PLO Higher Military Council. The same sources added that the Fatah rebels have been invited to participate in the Fatah Revolutionary Council's meeting.

The Revolutionary Council, which held its last session in Aden, comprises 75 members, of which 7 or 8 members have joined the Fatah rebel movement.

'Arafat Inspects Al-Biqa', Leaves for Tripoli

JN151634 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has ended the first leg of his inspection tour of the positions of the Palestinian revolution in Al-Biqa' and left for Tripoli in northern Lebanon.

Our correspondent has learned that the forthcoming Fatah Revolutionary Council session may convene in the Tripoli area next week. 'Arafat will attend a meeting of the Fatah Central Committee during which the venue and date of the Revolutionary Council will be definitely set and its agenda formulated.

Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Qazir], had inspected the Palestinian military positions and bases in Al-Biqa'. He also held a series of meetings with the commanders of these positions and became acquainted with the military situation and the combat readiness of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Discusses Al-Biqa' War, POW's

JN151700 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] In a statement published today by *Akhbar Al-Khalij* newspaper, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the Palestinian revolution is facing difficulties concerning moving its fighters from the countries where they are now to the battlefield in the event of an outbreak of a large-scale war with the Zionist enemy. He said that the host countries are not responsible for this, explaining that various arrangements have been made to transport the fighters in one way or another if the war breaks out.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said that there are possibilities of war in Al-Biqa', particularly following the Israeli threats to the PLO, which Israel holds responsible for the implementation and escalation of military operations behind the invading enemy lines in Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke about a recent visit by a Fatah movement delegation to Moscow. He said: It was a highly successful visit. The Fatah movement delegation was officially received by the Kremlin leaders and held talks at the USSR Foreign Ministry and with CPSU Central Committee officials.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said that he expects Syria to return to the Fatah movement its offices in Damascus which were occupied by certain elements. He said that the offices will be returned.

Regarding the eight Israeli POW's held by the PLO, Brother Abu 'Ammar stated that there were efforts being made by the International Red Cross and the Austrian Government. He said: We are waiting for the final official reply which is supposed to reach us through the International Red Cross. He said that the Zionist occupation authorities had agreed to the Palestinians' demands. He said that there were still some unresolved obvious and delicate issues.

Receives Message From Soviets

GF151902 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar yesterday received Comrade Primakov, CPSU Central Committee member and president of the Oriental Studies Institute, who conveyed to the commander in chief a special message from the Soviet leaders.

The brother commander in chief gave Brother Primakov a reply message for Brother Andropov dealing with the latest developments in the region and the developments on the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

Fatah's Nimr Salih Opposes Lebanese Dialogue

NC152159 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] In Damascus, Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], one of the leaders of the dissident Fatah movement, has said that the date of our return to Beirut with our rifles to protect our people is much sooner than the date our enemies expect for the withdrawal of our forces.

After expressing his opposition to the withdrawal of the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon, Abu Salih said that he also opposes any dialogue with the Lebanese authorities aimed at discussing questions pertaining to the status of the Palestinians residing in Lebanon.

Issues Warning

JN151756 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Telephone dispatch from Damascus by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Louis Faris]

[Text] On the Palestinian level, and while the Fatah command is preparing to hold a series of command meetings in an attempt to

end the rebellion within its ranks, one of the principal opponents of Yasir 'Arafat issued an official statement today warning against any meetings between Palestinian officials and representatives of the Lebanese authorities, particularly after the signing of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

Nimr Salih said that any promises given to the Lebanese authorities do not bind the Fatah movement, and that any contacts with the Lebanese authorities are a deviation from the decisions of Fatah and the Palestinian command. Abu Salih added that the Palestinian military presence in Lebanon is not subject to promises given to the U.S. Administration by those whom Abu Salih described as the deviationist Palestinian symbols. He, however, did not mention any names, though it was clear whom he had in mind.

Abu Salih concluded his statement by calling for more effective measures to redress the revolution's course and deter the deviationist forces, because the circumstances which had enabled those whom he described as being U.S. agents to control the course and existence of the revolution no longer exist in the Palestinian arena.

Rejects Palestinian Withdrawal

JN160559 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] In Damascus Abu Salih, one of the opposition leaders in the Fatah movement, has announced that he rejects the Palestinian fighters' withdrawal from Lebanon. In a statement distributed to the Syrian press, Abu Salih added: The date of the return of our guns to Beirut to protect our people is nearer than the date on which our enemies pin hopes for our withdrawal from Lebanon.

Abu Salih, who was dismissed from the Fatah Central Committee at the beginning of this year, said that the movement he is currently leading will adopt more effective methods to correct the Palestinian revolution's course. He also objected to any dialogue with the Lebanese authorities with regard to the status of the Palestinian civilians in Lebanon after the agreement with Israel is signed.

PLO Said To Oppose Modified Reagan Plan

GF151840 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1735 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 Jun (WAKH) — The PLO has once more stressed its rejection of U.S. President Reagan's plan, even if the U.S. Administration attempts to allude that some changes and amendments have been made in the original plan with the aim of decorating it and making it acceptable.

Mr 'Awni Battash, director of PLO office in Kuwait, stressed in a statement to QNA that no stability, peace, or security can be achieved by disregarding the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He said: As a Palestinian revolution, we affirm that armed struggle is the principal method for liberating the Palestinian soil. The Arab nation is capable of putting an end to the contentiousness of the Zionist enemy.

USSR Reportedly Mediating Syria-Iraq Dispute

JN160900 Amman Akhbar al-Usbu' in Arabic 16 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] The Soviet leadership has begun intensive contacts with Baghdad and Damascus in an attempt to reconcile the two countries.

Western diplomatic sources in Damascus said that a high- ranking Soviet envoy visited Baghdad and Damascus during the past 2 days, during which he delivered written messages in this regard to Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad. The sources added that the two countries reacted positively to the Soviet efforts. It was also announced that the Syrian Government has agreed to resume the pumping of Iraqi oil via Syrian territory.

The Soviet Union had earlier asked Syria to stop supplying Iran with weapons and experts and called for an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

KUWAIT

AS-SIYASAH Discusses U.S.-Soviet Deal on Lebanon

GF151348 Kuwait As-Siyasah in Arabic 14 Jun 83 p 1

[By political analyst]

[Text] Some of the Gulf political circles have received preliminary reports which give the impression that there is an international deal being secretly negotiated between Washington and Moscow which makes the Lebanese question subject to bargaining.

These preliminary reports indicate that after the U.S. Government succeeded in wrapping up the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, it discovered that the new Soviet leadership under Andropov is at the peak of activity. It also realized that Moscow will not let the current opportunity go by without receiving some kind of political payment.

The reports indicate that after the U.S. Government made verbal threats in order to apply pressure for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon and for the reduction of the Soviet presence in Syria, it discovered that the situation is more difficult and more complicated than it seemed since there are many pending international issues of a strategic nature that are pending between Moscow and Washington. So, if the U.S. Government does not make tangible concessions to the Soviets on one of these pending issues, then Andropov will fully play the Syrian-Lebanon card in such a way that brings concern.

These reports point out that the U.S. Government is currently ready to enter in the details of the new secret deal with Moscow in order that the Soviets are paid for alleviating their stringent position that sides with Syria with regard to Lebanon. The reports which reached the Gulf circles did not elaborate on the price which Washington will certainly pay to the Soviets, although part of this price will be the U.S. Government's consent to again give the Soviets a basic role in a comprehensive Middle East settlement — a role blocked to Moscow by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in the 1970's.

SAUDI ARABIA

AL-MADINAH Comments on Reagan Support for Israel

GF151237 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 15 Jun 83

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *Al-Madinah* commented today on the U.S. President's recent statement on his commitment to protect Israel. The paper said: "The U.S. President's recent statement that he is responsible for the security of Israel and that he will guarantee this during his term in office, was not strange. The United States' support for Israel is not strange either because this has always been the U.S. stand throughout history." The newspaper reviewed some of these U.S. stands and asked about the Arab stand on them.

AL-BILAD on Reasons for Holding Arab Summit

GF160718 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 16 Jun 83

[From press review]

[Text] On the Arab stand, the newspaper *Al-Bilad* wrote: "Amid the many equations present in the Arab arena, the Arab summit has emerged as a main factor through which a comprehensive Arab view to confront the situation which is about to explode due to a number of factors is formed. The summit is a good sign of hope. The goal now is not to hold the summit, but the main goal is to reach a unified Arab stand through this summit to undertake urgent issues and provide this summit with positive elements for arriving at a unified Arab decision that gives priority to Arab action within a comprehensive framework of presenting issues."

Information Minister Departs for Lebanon Visit

LD151456 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1208 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Jidda, 15 Jun (SPA) — Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir left for Beirut this afternoon for a private visit.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Calls For Confronting U.S. Mideast Plans

GF151318 Ash-Shariqah Al-Khalij in Arabic 15 Jun 83 p 1

[Editorial: "America Does Not Speak From a Vacuum"]

[Text] The U.S. Administration is trying with cunning methods to view the Arab position as being liable to accept the Egyptian-Israeli reconciliation, the Camp David accords, the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and even to recognize Israel and live with it in peace. Sometimes the United States says that 'Arafat is the only moderate man in the PLO, even though the PLO has already made it clear that it considers that the Reagan initiative does not satisfy the legitimate rights and ambitions of the Palestinian people. Not only this, the organization [PLO] in the resolutions of the Algerian session of the PNC stressed the necessity of the military option, when it called for strengthening the Arab position represented by the Fes resolutions through military capabilities of the Arabs to restore the legitimate Arab rights and to establish the independent Palestinian state. Moreover, the United States, in Reagan's words, many times described the PLO as being a terrorist organization and this in itself explains the subversive U.S. objective and the dirty and covert game that the United States is playing.

In this particular way the United States is trying to play the same game with Syria and Saudi Arabia. For 2 weeks the U.S. Department of State has been announcing acceptance of the Syrian foreign minister's visit to Washington, while Syria refused to receive Habib or Shultz. At the same time, the United States says that Saudi Arabia can play a positive role in Lebanon, suggesting that Riyadh has accepted the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, although official Saudi statements have never announced that Riyadh accepts the said agreement.

However, the U.S. announcements have not emerged from a vacuum. The vacuum is, in fact, represented by the incoherent official Arab position, both on the United States itself, which is trying to complete its domination of the Arab world, or on the hectic Arab-Arab differences. The factions of the Palestinian resistance and the national Lebanese fighters responded to these U.S. attempts with further military operations against the occupying Zionist troops in the occupied lands and in Lebanon. The Arab countries which are directly concerned about the matter or those countries which indirectly influence the course of events are supposed to respond to these U.S. attempts decisively, clearly and covertly by refusing to receive any U.S. official and by rejecting the visit of any of their officials to Washington for the purpose of negotiating the Lebanese-Israeli agreement or any form of contacts, especially since the United States is the country which wants to impose its conditions on Egypt, Lebanon, the occupied land, Syria or on the Palestinian issue in general. What is required is a comprehensively clear position that rejects the Israeli occupation of the Arab lands — a comprehensively clear position that confronts the U.S.-Israeli plan to dominate the Arab world under claims of peace.

Klibi Meets Officials, Leaves for PDRY

GF151458 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 Jun (WAM) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi today left for Aden at the conclusion of a 2-day visit to the UAE within the framework of his tour of a number of Arab countries.

During his visit Klibi met with Lieutenant General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and with Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs. He discussed with them the current Arab developments and the efforts being exerted to reinforce Arab solidarity.

PDRY

Arab League's Secretary General Pays Visit

Arrives 15 June

GF151328 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Brother Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, arrived in Aden today on a visit to our country within a tour of a number of Arab countries.

In a statement to ANA, he pointed out that during his meetings with officials in the PDRY he will hold talks on developments of the Arab situation in these circumstances, which he said require from all further coordination and solidarity. He expressed confidence that the talks will help in crystallizing a position to confront the Israeli threats and the new dangerous challenges which are confronting the Arab nation. He was received by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs; and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Meets With YSP Chairman

GF151538 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, met at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat this afternoon with Brother Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League.

During the meeting they discussed a number of issues related to the developments in the Arab region, especially the situation in the Lebanese arena, the results expected from the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the provocations against Syria, the Lebanese people and the Palestinian revolution.

In his talks with Klibi, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed the necessity of uniting the Arab ranks in order to dismiss the Zionist occupants from the Arab lands and in order to guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people. The brother secretary general affirmed our country's support for Syria and the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. He called for achieving Arab solidarity to guarantee the return of the occupied Arab lands and the protection of Arab sovereignty.

During the meeting they also discussed a number of issues which concern the Arab peoples and the strengthening of the role and prestige of the Arab League.

Departs 15 June

GF151630 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Brother Chedli Klibi today left Aden after concluding a short visit to the PDRY, during which he met with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and consulted with him on the developments of the Arab situation and means of confronting the Zionist challenges.

Upon departure, he was seen off by Foreign Affairs Minister Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali and a number of officials at the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

YAR

President Discusses Internal, External Policies

PM151058 Jidda 'Ukaz in Arabic 4 Jun 83 pp 10,11

[Interview with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih by Hashim 'Abdu Hasim in San'a' — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: What have you learned from the experience of the first 5 years in office and does Your Excellency imagine that the Yemeni people have actually achieved what they wanted?

Answer: The past 5 years have confirmed my belief that the success of any political leadership stems from political decisions being based on the people's will and from the leadership's striving

to satisfy the citizens' aspirations and seeking to achieve their objectives in life within the policies they believe in and adhere to. It is also necessary for the leadership to broaden the base for the shouldering of responsibilities, promote equal opportunities on the basis of the principle of equality, and strengthen national unity.

Adherence to this course which is based on democracy in our country is capable of achieving progress both internally and externally and of serving the higher national interests of our people and our Arab and Islamic nation.

With regard to the second part of the question I can say that much of what our people wanted with regard to democratic practices has been achieved. But with regard to the other aspects of progress, particularly comprehensive economic and social develop-ment our people's aspirations are greater and are growing with the passage of time, despite the remarkable success we achieved in the implementation of the first 5-year plan.

Question: What will you offer the Yemeni people during your second presidential term? Or, in other words, what was it that you wished to achieve and were unable to achieve because of circumstances but would like to achieve during the coming term?

Answer: In the speech I made to the Yemeni people in the People's Constituent Assembly after being sworn in I outlined the most important objectives and goals I will seek to achieve alongside those which have already been achieved and will be further developed. I sum up these objectives and goals as follows:

1. To work for the implementation of the national covenant and to translate it into practice in Yemeni life in accordance with the people's beliefs and the prophets tradition.

2. To consolidate security and stability in the country, since this is the desirable atmosphere for continuing development and building.

3. To seek to spread social justice and consolidate the principle of equality as a basis for national and development action, which will be meaningless in our life unless we consolidate social justice, with its brilliant Islamic concept.

4. To spread development throughout the republic while giving priority to deprived areas.

5. To consolidate national unity as the cornerstone of the strength of our internal situation.

6. To continue to make sincere efforts with our southern brothers in order to achieve national unity, which is the number one cause of all our Yemeni people.

7. To make intensive efforts to extract natural wealth from the ground in order to exploit it to the benefit of the Yemeni people.

This, briefly, is our policy on the internal level. With regard to our external policy we follow the same route, because experience has proved to us that it is the correct, sound route. Meanwhile, we concentrate further efforts on the success of the Palestinian cause and give everything possible in support of the Palestinian revolution so that our Palestinian Arab people can achieve their objectives of returning to their homeland, self-determination, and establishing an independent Palestinian state.

Question: Mr President, dialogue with south Yemen has almost come to a standstill because of many differences in views over the future shape of the United States' regime. Can it be said that rapprochement is likely, despite the different political and economic systems existing in the two countries?

Answer: Through our dialogue on unity with our brother officials in the southern part we seek to determine the regime of the single united Yemeni state on the basis of the principles contained in the unity agreements signed by the leadership of the two parts of the country. The dialogue is continuing and we have achieved positive results in the various fields of cooperation and coordination and in the establishment of joint companies. We are continuing our efforts to attain the desired unity goals.

Question: But some people believe that this coordination is unlikely to lead to any positive results. What is the truth?

Answer: In fact coordination between the two countries has been going on for more than 10 years. We have been having talks with the brothers in the southern part over the establishment of unity because we are one people.

But unfortunately colonialism and Yemen's backward conditions in the past have contributed to dividing the country, because colonialism creates several states from one state. Since 1972 several agreements have been concluded in Cairo, Tripoli, Kuwait, San'a', and Aden under the terms of which unity should be established. We insist on reuniting the country by uniting its two parts. Our steps in this direction are steady, well thought-out, and taken with responsibility so as to avoid the risk of any setback in the future. We have learned from the experience of others.

Question: But such steps seem to be ineffective.

Answer: Not true. We want a strong unity that is reassuring to everybody. We want a unity whose roots are in the Islamic Shari'ah, the heavenly divine constitution, God's book, and the prophet's tradition.

The agreements between the two parts of the country provide for this and, in fact, we are committed to everything we have agreed upon. Our aim is to consolidate national unity internally and strengthen the country's ties with other countries within the framework of greater Arab unity.

Question: Do the brothers in the south share your views?

Answer: This is our viewpoint and we believe that they share it with us, particularly since it stems from agreements and principles already agreed upon. The objective is the same — a unity that satisfies every Yemeni in the north and the south and that disturbs nobody.

Question: But, as I have already said, some people believe that dialogue has now come to a halt.

Answer: No, dialogue is continuing, and meetings are also continuing, along with exchanges of visits and coordination between the two parts. Two joint companies have been established between the two parts with the aim of consolidating this line. We do not want to rush things.

Question: But, Mr President, some people believe that the establishment of unity, given the differences of views of both regimes, particularly in the economic cultural [as published] fields, is impossible.

Answer: We have in fact agreed on the system of the unified state, a system that is derived from our common historical background. There is nothing to indicate that there is any retraction of these agreements. If there was no common belief in these principles it would not have been possible to conclude these agreements, because neither party exerted pressure on the other.

Question: What about the foreign policies of both parts and their agreements with the big powers? Will these, if a unified state is set up, be amalgamated within the framework of the united state, and is there agreement in principle on this?

Answer: There is no specific agreement; nevertheless, the united state will establish its own foreign relations in accordance with its own new views.

Question: Mr President, how are your relations with the Soviet Union?

Answer: In fact they are good relations. They are the most ancient relations [with the USSR] in the area with the exception of Saudi Arabia's.

Question: Is this the basis for wide cooperation with it in the military field?

Answer: Our policy is based on diversifying sources of armaments among all world countries, including the Soviet Union, France, Italy, the United States, and the Warsaw Pact countries.

Question: But it is understood that sophisticated weapons are usually accompanied by some experts on the pretext of passing on experience to the [purchasing] countries. But we find that the arms-exporting countries exploit the presence of these experts in a manner that harms the interests of the importing countries.

Answer: We benefit from experts in the field of experience and for self-development. Contrary to what some may imagine, the presence of experts is not linked to political factors. It is true thatsome of them realize certain objectives, but this depends on the country concerned.

We view any expertise offered us within the framework of joint cooperation. We are anxious that the activities of these experts be confined to the basic tasks for which they have come. We will not allow our security and stability to be jeopardized.

Arab League's Klibi Arrives in San'a' 15 Jun

GF151810 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in San'a' today on a short visit, during which he will hold talks with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, dealing with current Arab issues.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Klibi noted that the tour he undertook 2 weeks ago to a number of Arab countries was designed to discuss the Arab initiatives and consultations. He pointed out that the results of this tour bring confidence. Concluding, he stressed the need to preserve joint Arab action in order to confront the challenges and dangers that face the Arab nation.

Upon arrival he was received by 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign affairs minister and member of the Standing Committee in addition to the chiefs of the Political and the Protocol Departments at the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

PLO'S Salah Khalaf Departs YAR 15 June

GF151820 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, left San'a' today at the conclusion of a 4-day visit to the YAR, during which he met with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and a number of officials.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY Brother Abu Iyad praised the stances of our country toward the Palestinian issue in particular and the Arab issues in general. He pointed out that he visited the Sabra Palestinian camp in San'a' and got acquainted with the course of military training and the conditions of the camp. He added that he informed the camp residents on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue.

Upon departure he was seen off by Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, education minister and secretary of the Standing Committee; a Foreign Affairs Ministry protocol official; a number of the Sabra Palestinian camp officers; and members of the PLO office in San'a'.

Mubarak Receives Japanese Official 15 June

NC151023 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0942 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jun (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak this morning received Tochijiro Nakajima, Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister and head of the Japanese delegation to the joint Japanese-Egyptian committee. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Imran ash-Shafi'i and Japanese Ambassador in Cairo Yosuke Nakae.

It is worth noting that the joint Japanese-Egyptian committee was formed following the recent visit to Japan by President Mubarak. At its current meeting, the committee is discussing bilateral cooperation. The Japanese official arrived in Cairo the day before yesterday.

Japanese Official Comments

NC151256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jun (MENA) — Following his meeting with President Mubarak today, Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Tochijiro Nakajima said he told President Mubarak that his visit to Japan has greatly strengthened and given a push to bilateral relations. He said: I have briefed President Mubarak on the results of the recent meetings of the seven industrial countries' leaders at Williamsburg in the United States, which Japanese Prime Minister Yashuhiro Nakasone attended. Nakasone received a message from President Mubarak before his departure for Williamsburg on the importance of dialogue between the North and the South and on the importance of development programs for developing countries.

The Japanese deputy foreign minister said he told President Mubarak that progress has been made regarding all the issues outlined in the Egyptian-Japanese statement issued following Mubarak's visit. He said that a working group was formed and came to Cairo. He added that the meeting also dealt with the situation in the Middle East. He further said: I also told the president that en route to Egypt I stopped over in Israel, where I held talks with the officials there and I called on the Israeli side to demonstrate flexibility regarding the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Technical Cooperation Accord Signed With Japan

NC151550 Cairo MENA in English 1520 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Cairo, June 15 (MENA) — Egypt and Japan signed an agreement today for boosting technical cooperation.

It will organize fields of work for the Japanese experts in the joint ventures and means of extending the Japanese know-how particularly in the fields of training, manpower, electricity, energy, agricuture, and industry particularly textiles.

'Ali Shawki al-Hadidi, Director of the Cultural Department [signed for Egypt and] Japanese Ambassador here Nakae Yosuke signed for his country.

Meanwhile Japan will set up an educational and cultural center in Egypt while a Japanese delegation is due here next month for talks with Egyptian officials as regards this center.

On the other hand, the joint Egyptian-Japanese committee held itsmaiden meeting today since its formation last April with Ambassador Umran ash-Shafi'i, assistant foreign minister, and the Japanese deputy foreign minister, who is currently visiting here, attending.

Ambassador ash-Shafi'i said following the meeting that the joint committee reviewed bilateral relations in the different fields. The two countries' stances as regards a number of international issues, mainly the Middle East and the different issues that were raised during the African summit conference that was held recently in Addis Ababa.

The two sides to the joint committee have also discussed the outcome of the seven Western countries summit in which Japan took place, Ambassador ash-Shafi'i said.

This committee, Ash-Shafi'i said, was formed during president Husni Mubarak's visit to Japan last April with the aim to continue consolidating cooperation between the two countries in the political, cultural, and economic fields.

Some sub-committees of special nature will be formed and will meet alternately in both Cairo and Tokyo.

Mubarak Receives Romanian Youth Secretary

NC151335 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received Nicolae Ceausescu's son, who is assistant secretary general of the youth organiza tion and secretary of the International Relations Committee in the Romanian parliament. Chairman of the Higher Council for Youth and Sports 'Abd al-Ahad Jamal ad-Din attended the meeting and said after the meeting that the discussions dealt with the organization and coordination of international activity between Egypt and Romania, particularly regarding the celebration of International Youth Day in 1985. The discussions also dealt with bilateral relations.

'Ali Comments on Tabah, Middle East Issues

NC151110 Paris AFP in English 0958 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Cairo, June 15 (AFP) — A new round of negotiations between Israel and Egypt over the disputed zone of Tabah in the Sinai cannot get underway until there is agreement on a site for the talks, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today.

In an interview with AFP, Mr 'Ali said Israel was insisting on Jerusalem as the venue for a fifth round of talks on the contested area, a one square km strip of land located in the Sinai, close to the Israeli border just south of the Port of Elat. Egypt does not recognize Jerusalem as the Israeli capital.

"The next meeting will be held after getting an agreement on the venue," Mr 'Ali said. "There is nothing new."

The most recent round of negotiations on the Tabah, where Israelis last year inaugurated a 15-story tourist hotel, were held last March in Ismaili'a, Egypt. They failed to resolve the dispute.

Egypt is sticking to its position of holding talks alternately in Ismaili'a and Beersheba.

The Egyptian foreign minister reiterated Cairo's stand on the recall last year of its ambassador to Israel, Sa'd Murtada, following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He said the diplomat would return to his post once there was an agreement on a timetable for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

In any case, Egypt must choose another diplomat to replace Mr Murtada who is to retire this month, Mr 'Ali said.

Asked about Egypt's relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr 'Ali said at no time had dialogue between the two been halted. He said Egypt currently harbored some 70,000 Palestinians, 18,000 of whom were enrolled in Egyptian schools and universities.

Diplomatic sources said Mr 'Ali was scheduled to meet this week with Nabil Sha'at, diplomatic advisor to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The Egyptian minister reaffirmed Cairo's support for the Middle East peace plan proposed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan as well as for the Israeli-Lebanese troop withdrawal accord signed last month.

But he said that support did not mean Egypt had excluded its draft plan submitted with France to the United Nations Security Council calling for the recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination and a long-term Middle East settlement with the participation of the PLO.

Asked if he foresaw improved Egyptian ties with Libya following the recent tour of Arab capitals by Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Mr 'Ali said: "Libya is unpredictable," adding he saw nothing more than good neighborly relations between the two.

Investigations Against Two Ex-Ministers Shelved

NC151652 Cairo MENA in English 1545 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Cairo, June 15 (MENA) — The public prosecutor-general today shelved the investigation against two former Cabinet ministers who had been suspected of having facilitated illicit dealings by 'Ismat as-Sadat, brother of the late President Anwar as-Sadat.

Prosecutor 'Atif Zaki found the charges against former Industry Minister Fu'ad Abu Zaghlah and former Supply Minister Nasif Tahun untrue. The former industry minister was found innocent of the charge that he had facilitated the illicit purchase of iron and steel products by 'Ismat as-Sadat when he, Abu Zaghlah, was board chairman of the iron and steel complex. Tahun was also found innocent of the charge that he had facilitated the illicit purchase of dried milk supplies by 'Ismat as-Sadat.

The charges had been made by the Court of Ethics in its trial of 'Ismat as-Sadat.

New Senior Military Appointments Announced

NC151922 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a presidential decree appointing staff Major General Ibrahim 'Abd al-Ghaffur al-'Urabi chief of staff of the armed forces and promoting him to the rank of lieutenant general to replace Lieutenant General 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz, who has been retired.

The president has issued another presidential decree appointing Staff Major General Ahmad Salah ad-Din 'Abd al-Halim chief of the armed forces operation body and Staff Major General Mahfuz 'Abd al-Hafiz Hamdi commander of the 2d Field Army.

Palestine Radio Urges U.S. To Contact PLO

NC150922 Cairo Palestine Radio in Arabic 0630 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Palestinian Popular Talk by Mazin ash-Shawwa]

[Text] [Zbigniew] Brzezinski, formerly national security adviser to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, disclosed that he had met with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The United Arab Emirates News Agency said that Brzezinski stressed to certain UAE Foreign Ministry officials that the U.S. Government had held several unofficial meetings with the PLO, without revealing the dates of these meetings. It is to be recalled that Brzezinski recently paid a private visit to the Gulf area on a fact-finding mission on the situation in the area.

The question now posed is that since the United States had held direct contacts and meetings with the PLO, what prevents these meetings and contacts from being public and official? Would the United States commit a crime if it held contacts with the Palestinian leadership, which the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied Palestinian homeland have accepted as their sole leadership?

Also, the Arab nation has approved it and the international community, the United Nations, and the Security Council have accepted it. What prevents the United States from learning the Palestinian views directly from the Palestinian leadership without intermediary, particularly since this leadership has proven its competence and efficiency, and has convinced the world of its weight and magnitude on local, regional, and international levels? What prevents the United States — which has undertaken to take positive steps toward finding an overall settlement of the Palestinian question and the Middle East crisis — from building bridges by dialogue with the Palestinian side which is the primary and main side to the problem as it does with the other parties?

It is a given fact now that the Palestinian question is the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the core of the Middle East problem. It is also a fact that solving the Palestinian question is the key to solving the Middle East crisis, and the only way to return peace and stability to the area. For this reason, direct dealing with the Palestinian leadership will help a great deal in achieving a sound and comprehensive settlement, in expediting the achievement of this settlement, and it will avert for the peoples of the area the evils and ordeals of a possible eruption in the area.

Communique 1,123: 6 Iranians Killed, Areas Shelled

JN151654 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Communique No 1,123 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 15 June 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With men whose hearts are full of faith in God Almighty and in the inevitable victory over the forces of evil and aggression which are ruling in Iran, our valiant Armed Forces continued their activities in the sectors of operations. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our forces struck it with various types of weapons, killing three and wounding many.

2. Our forward units struck an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions east of Basra with their weapons, killing three.

3. Our forward units struck enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite their positions in the Maysan sector with their artillery, destroying two guns, two infantry positions, one hardware stockpile, and one observation post whose occupants were killed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 Jun 1983

ATH-THAWRAH Assails Iran's Rulers, Plans

JN151027 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jun (INA) — The newspaper *Ath Thawrah* has asserted that Khomeyni alone wants the war to continue and bears the responsibility for all the enormous human and material losses which the war has inflicted and continues to inflict on the Iranian nationalities.

In its editorial entitled "Utter Defeat Is the Fate of Any New Iranian Attack," *Ath-Thawrah* says: The increasingly aggressive manner these days of the Iranian rulers and their exposed attempts to instigate and mobilize the Iranian nationalities against Iraq indicate the extent of panic and anxiety gripping the Khomeyniite clique.

The paper adds that there are many signs affirming the positive reaction of the Iranian nationalities to President Saddam Husayn's third letter and their satisfaction with his peaceful and responsible proposals. The paper also affirms that Khomeyni was the first to show anxiety, confusion, and agitation as a result of President Saddam Husayn's letter to the Iranian nationalities, particularly when he attacked the hypocrites, the divergents, and those calling for putting an end to the war and weakening peoples' will.

The paper explains that Khomeyni, with his wickedness and cunning, has recognized that the spread of such calls among the Iranian nationalities affects his evil aims and intentions and the fate of his shaky regime, which is facing crises and social and economic problems. The paper adds that the Iranian nationalities have become aware that continuing the war is futile.

The paper also pointed out that the aggressive behavior of Tehran rulers and their rejection of the Iraqi proposals assert the deeply-rooted Persian hatred of the Iraqi people and the Arab nation and disclose their aggressive intentions to invade Iraq and humiliate its proud people. The paper concludes: The Iraqis are stronger and more determined than ever to teach the invaders bitter lessons and crush all the attempts aimed at harming Iraq's sovereignty, land, and dignity.

Presidential Decree on Kurdish Elections

JN151146 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Presidential Decree No 383]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of the Legislative Council Law of the Kurdish Autonomous Region No 56 of 1980, and at the recommendation of the chairman of the higher commission supervising the elections, we decree the following:

Friday, 5 August, is fixed as the date for holding the elections of the Legislative Council in the Autonomous Region. The chairman of the higher commission supervising the elections is hereby instructed to implement the decree.

Written in Baghdad on 15 June 1983.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the republic.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns to Baghdad From Amman

JN151934 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jun (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned here this evening following a brief visit to Jordan. During his visit, Tariq 'Aziz conveyed a message from President Saddam Husayn to Jordan's King Husayn dealing with developments in the Arab and international situation and bilateral relations.

Pakistani Envoy Delivers Message, Leaves 15 June

JN152022 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jun (INA) — Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn left Baghdad this evening. The personal envoy, Najim Saqeb Khan, Pakistan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, delivered to Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf a message from President Ziaul Haq for President Saddam Husayn when he was received by Ma'ruf earlier today. In a statement to INA, the Pakistani envoy said that Iraq and Pakistan have similar views on international issues and the bolstering of Islamic solidarity.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Pays Visit to Amman

Received by Husayn

JN151305 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Amman, 15 Jun (INA) — His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan this afternoon received Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. 'Aziz conveyed an oral message from President Saddam Husayn dealing with the current Arab and international situation in addition to discussing the fraternal relations between the two countries.

'Aziz had arrived in Amman earlier today on a short visit to Jordan.

Foreign Minister's Statement

JN151928 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a brief visit to Jordan. He said that his visit to Amman falls within the context of the Jordanian and Iraqi leaderships' policy of coordination and consultation regarding the strong brotherly bilateral relations, the Arab situation, and international issues of mutual interest.

He said that the visit will provide him with the opportunity of meeting with his counterpart Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim to exchange views on various issues.

Responding to a question on the Iraqi Government's position on initiatives and mediations to heal the Arab rift and to unite the stands, 'Aziz said: Iraq needs sufficient time to assess these initiatives and the extent of their seriousness in order to arrive at a final and responsible deduction. He affirmed however, that Iraq's firm position has always been toward uniting Arab ranks.

He was met at the airport by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim, the Iraqi ambassador in Amman, and several Foreign Ministry officials.

Agricultural Trade Agreement Signed With Syria

JN151106 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 15 Jun 83 p 2

[Excerpts] Amman — PETRA — Jordan and Syria yesterday agreed on the exchange of agricultural products.

This step followed a visit by a delegation of the Syrian General Establishment for Fruit and Vegetable Trade, headed by the establishment's general director, and meetings with Minister of Agriculture Marwan Dudin, the Ministry of Agriculture under secretary, the director of the Agricultural Marketing Organization, and a number of competent Jordanians.

The agreement calls for measures to tackle all aspects of the practical application of the agreement. Quarterly meetings between the officials of the two organizations in both countries will be held alternately in Amman and Damascus for this purpose.

AR-RA'Y Discusses U.S. Proposals for Golan

JN141218 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 14 Jun 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The United States and the Game of Bargaining," *Ar-Ra'y* says: The U.S. Administration has openly hinted that Israel's withdrawal from the Golan can be discussed in U.S.-Syrian negotiations and used as a bargaining card for Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon. This came in a statement by U.S. envoy Morris Draper to the NBC TV network. Thus, the U.S. Administration seems to have finally realized that the Israeli occupation of the Golan constitutes a major obstacle to any settlement of the Lebanese problem. However, the game of bargaining, which the U.S. Administration is hinting at, in itself encourages Israel to proceed with its aggressions. The bargaining proposed by Draper centers on Syrian and Lebanese lands which Israel usurped through aggression. This is recognition of aggression as a means to achieve territorial gains, which allow the aggressors to bargain. Thus, Israel benefits from aggression, which contradicts all UN resolutions and international laws and norms.

Ar-Ra'y adds: True, any U.S. Administration effort to force Israel to withdraw from the Golan will be a positive step toward leading the region to stability, but the game of bargaining remains doubtful in light of the current situation, particularly since Israel has rejected and is still rejecting the idea of exchanging the occupied Palestinian territory for peace. This idea has been accepted by the Arabs despite its implications. Syria's right to the Golan is an undisputed and established right which does not tolerate compromise or bargaining. Certainly, the intention is not to keep the Lebanese problem unsolved, but to remind everyone that the restoration of the Lebanese territory is Lebanon's right, just as the restoration of the Syrian territory is Syria's right. When the U.S. Administration succeeds in forcing Israel to withdraw from the occupied Lebanese and Syrian territories, the Lebanese problem will then find its way toward a settlement free of obstacles and bargaining.

Ar-Ra'y concludes: The only permissible bargaining is the exchange of the occupied Arab territory for peace. Partial bargaining is no more than rewarding the aggressor and blackmailing the victim.

Daily Proposes Ways To Break Mideast Stalemate

JN151241 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Jun 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Possible Ways To Reactivate the Situation," *Sawt Ash-Sha'b* says: Other than opening the door wide for Syrian dialogue with Washington and for a possible visit by Shultz to the Syrian capital and the region, there are no signs of a possible breakthrough in the Middle East stalemate resulting from the nonimplementation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement due to opposition by Syria. Jordan seems to be waiting for new developments; the PLO is preoccupied with its urgent internal

problems; and Syria has been reassured that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement cannot be implemented without its consent and that its ability to obstruct the agreement has added a new dimension to its role in the region. Furthermore, Israel seems to have lost the initiative in Lebanon due to the confusion caused by the complicated situation and the increased human losses on Lebanese territory. As for the United States, it is being obliged to reconsider its calculations in the region after its unilateral handling of the issue led it to a dead end.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b adds: The possible factors to reactivate the situation as presented today have three dimensions: 1) The Arab dimension — An Arab summit is being proposed as a catalyst to influence the Syrian stand on Lebanon, although there are no guarantees that the summit would not deviate from the agenda. 2) The international dimension — This concerns the demand by some countries that the formula of an international conference be readopted to tackle the Middle East issue comprehensively, but Washington has ruled this out in its calculations and strategy to contain the Soviets in the Middle East. 3) The U.S.-Syrian dialogue dimension — The United States may present new proposals which go beyond President Reagan's plan to reactivate the situation, but despite U.S. hints, this remains mere conjecture and speculation without a tangible basis.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b adds: The new element in the U.S. position is no more than a trial balloon which aims to trade the Arabs' rights on one issue for their rights on another issue. This is a policy which has been in effect since the 1973 war based on fragmenting the Arab cause and transforming it into regional conflicting interests to divert attention from the crux of the Middle East conflict — the Palestine question.

The Arabs presently are required to adopt a trend that tackles the crisis in Arab relations, which has become a heavy burden limiting their ability to confront and initiate political moves, that returns to the comprehensive solution principle, and that rejects solutions which are at the expense of the main cause in the conflict, because the step-by-step policy has so far failed to produce comprehensive solutions in the region.

Al-Jumayyil Addresses Cabinet Meeting 15 June

NC151442 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1308 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] At the outset of the Cabinet session held at noon today, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil congratulated the Muslims and the Lebanese on the arrival of the blessed month of Ramadan, expressing wishes that God will engulf his people with blessings and stability.

The Cabinet appraised the Chamber of Deputies sessions which ended in a vote in favor of the agreement on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. The president expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the discussions, not only with regard to the outcome of the voting, but also with regard to the atmosphere which prevailed during the discussions.

The president said that the overwhelming majority of the representatives of the various factions and the various areas, communities, and religions votedfor the agreement. This vividly and truly expresses the unity of the Lebanese people in their aspirations, in their determination to liberate their homeland from the occupation and presence of all non-Lebanese forces, and in spreadingfull Lebanese sovereignty over all the soil of the homeland.

The president greeted the Chamber of Deputies — speaker and members — and also the personalities, who supported the agreement, for their historic stand which embodies the unity of the Lebanese national and political decision in the face of pressures and temptations. His excellency emphasized that the free democratic Lebanese system has again affirmed its ability to triumph and survive. The multiplicity in opinions, points of view, and tendencies is an indication of a political and democratic vitality. What is important is that there is both a natural and essential unity to adhere to Lebanon, its sovereignty and affiliation, and a stubborn insistence on liberating it from all the non-Lebanese forces.

The president expressed noticeable interest in the remarks, objections, and reservations made about the agreement, affirming that the government will consider those that are warranted. His excellency called on the government to take this into consideration to avert setbacks, but to consolidate the atmosphere of national solidarity concerning the agreement on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon and concerning sovereignty and to keep this as an element of concord and rapprochement among the Lebanese and between the Lebanese and the Arab brothers.

The president drew the attention of the Cabinet to the fact that many of those who have expressed objections or reservations did this out of the same considerations as prompted the supporters to express their support for the agreement; namely, a unanimous desire to liberate Lebanon from all foreign presence. His excellency expressed appreciation over the fact that no voice has called for keeping any non-Lebanese force on Lebanon's territory or for undermining the state's sovereignty. The difference in views has only been confined to ways of liberation and restoration of sovereignty.

The president expressed great appreciation for the historic stand adopted by the Chamber of Deputies as a constitutional institution, which has proved many times that it deserves to be entrusted with safeguarding the Lebanese system and upholding democracy and freedom, thus deeply, sincerely, and freely expressing the Lebanese people's wishes and aspirations.

The president affirmed that the free parliamentary democracy is not a privilege of the Lebanese system alone or a gift from this system to the Lebanese, but that it is the first and deep expression of the dimension of Lebanon's existence. It is synonymous with this existence. Those who expressed support, and those who expressed opposition or made reservations, performed an act of faith characterized by freedom and independent decision inside the Chamber of Deputies and within the framework of the state's sovereignty.

The president noted that the publicity given to the discussions has affirmed to those near and far that there are no secrets in the agreements and its appendices. He informed the Cabinet that the ratification of the agreement will take place in light of what was said and agreed upon at the Chamber of Deputies and the Cabinet, and in light of the contacts aimed at creating atmospheres conducive to implementing it.

The president discussed the situation in some villages in southern Lebanon, especially the Israeli siege of the town of Dayr Qanun an-Nahr. He reviewed the contacts made in this connection. He emphasized the need for providing security and reassurance for all. His excellency also dealt with the issue of the Ansar detention camp and the efforts being made to release the detainees there.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan Calls for Arab Support

NC152147 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Speech delivered by Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan at banquet to break the fast held by Islamic Orphanage House at Bristol Hotel in Beirut on 15 June — recorded]

[Excerpt] Politically, we remain committed to all the means and methods we have adopted to liberate the homeland and to consolidate the legitimate state everywhere so that it may continue to serve the citizen and be able to play its distinguished role at home and in the Arab and international arenas. I have said before and I reiterate today that we are working for the liberation of Lebanon. In our stance, we are not engaged in illusions, because the homeland has actually been resurrected. However, we have not stopped working in anticipation of the homeland's rise. We are working because the liberation of Lebanon is the only way to build it, cement its unity, strengthen its will, and restore its sovereignty and legitimacy.There can be no homeland without a free land and a free people. There can be no homeland without the will of this people who shall impose it on their land. We will do so, God willing. [applause]

Brothers, as I have said before and I reiterate today, we are working in the open and in broad daylight under the rays of the sun. We have reached an agreement on the withdrawal of the

Israeli forces from our territory. We would not have concluded this agreement if we had another option or another way leading us to our goal of liberating our homeland. It is an agreement which is no more, in our view, than an expression of our eagerness to get rid of the occupation. Under no circumstances do we consider it as an approach to ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. We do not want this agreement to become an Arab strategy. If we had a unified Arab strategy, this agreement would not have been concluded. [applause] Give us a unified Arab strategy, and there will be no agreement. Give us a capable unified stand, and we will be in the vanguard of the war of liberation. But we will not agree to wait alone and bleed. We will not agree to suffer and endure and be given only encouragement. We will not agree that the occupation should continue and that no hand other than ours should be raised. We have a right to this agreement to liberate our land, and we have not overburdened it with more than it can bear. There are no details in the agreement other than getting rid of the occupation. Anyone who seeks the details will find what he accepts and what he rejects. However, who says that it was easy for us to accept everything we accepted? At any rate, we have not accepted anything which detracts from our sovereignty and national dignity. [applause]

We look forward to the help of our Arab brothers so their understanding of our position will help us complete the liberation of our land and shorten the nights of torture which our sons have experienced for several years.

Greater Beirut is not the entire homeland. We do not want to sit here and share the morsel in this blessed month when we have brothers everywhere who look forward to our efforts. You have been patient for 1 year and you have been rewarded with your present situation. We are being patient now and we look upon our steadfast kinsmen in the south, the mountain, Al-Biqa', and the north and promise that there will be no Lebanon without them, because we do not want a part of a homeland. [applause] We look forward to a faithful and united stand, and we look upon our patient kinsmen in every big and small village and promise them to meet soon to share the same morsel, because we are one people and one will. We promise them at this meeting today that we will belong to all our sons in our institutions because our sons are the future of the nation; and a nation that does not build for its future will not live. We promise that our march today is, as it was in the past, the result of long patience which is derived from this blessed month of sacrifices, offerings, and givings.

Brothers, let our sacrifices be the (?spirit) of the meaning of our meeting today, tomorrow, and until we achieve victory by the efforts of the believers. [words indistinct] and nothing will be enough until the aims are realized.

Saudi Information Minister Arrives, Comments

NC151715 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Saudi Information Minister General 'Ali ash-Sha'ir arrived in Beirut at 1700. He was met at the airport by [Information] Minister Roger Shaykhani, Saudi Charge d'Affaires Abu Bakr Rafi', and Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad at-Turk.

At the airport, the Saudi information minister made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Question] Your Excellency, in view of Saudi Arabia's continuous and effective efforts to help Lebanon, what is the nature of your visit to Lebanon?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, it is a private visit. I am returning to dear Lebanon, a country I have missed very much. I will stay in Lebanon for a few days during which I intend to visit his excellency the president, the prime minister, and the foreign minister. Naturally, in Lebanon I have dear and loyal friends whom I will be pleased to meet with if circumstances allow. All of you know that my appointment as minister of information has not allowed me to return before now to carry out some protocol duties. Therefore, I am visiting now in order to meet with all my beloved friends, to thank Lebanon represented by all its trends, peoples and communties, and to say good-bye to this beloved country.

[Question] Your Excellency, we must make use of your magnanimity to which you have accustomed us in order to submit a question dealing with the contacts the Kingdom is holding to help Lebanon. What has happened to these contacts in light of the current developments?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, the contacts are still continuing and are intensive. Perhaps you have followed the efforts His Majesty King Fahd has made in the past few days on all levels to narrow the differences and to reach solutions to the predicaments facing the area. God willing, there is great optimism.

[Question] A last question, Your Excellency. How do you see Lebanon's future in light of the Saudi contacts with the Arab brothers.

[Answer] By nature, I always look at things from the bright side. I view things with optimism and no pessimism. [end recording]

Sham'un, Pierre al-Jumayyil Make Statements

NC151357 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The Lebanese Front, which convened in Dayr Mar Jirjis in 'Awkar today, rejected the accusations leveled against the Chamber of Deputies, which it regards as representing all the Lebanese people. The front also denounced the barbaric shelling of the peaceful areas, particularly the city of Juniyah. A team of Juniyah functionaries visited the Lebanese front today.

[Former] President Camille Sham'un has stated that following the approval of the agreement, implementation must start. He said: The quicker we implement it, the more we serve the public interest. Within an economic context, President Sham'un asked the government not to close the Juniyah Port but to keep it open as a tourist port at least.

Meanwhile, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil [leader of the Phalangist party] emphasized that the Chamber of Deputies represents all the communities and creeds in Lebanon, and that it represents

the people more than the chamber which will succeed it. He said that the issue has now moved to Syria, adding: We amicably ask Syria to show us the road to salvation so as to avert a dispute between the twin countries.

The Phalangist leader said that Lebanon has not heard any proposals for a solution other than the advice to commit suicide. The individual is free to commit suicide but to have a country commit suicide is treason, according to the Phalangist leader.

Shaykh Pierre held the armed Palestinian presence responsible for subjecting the armistice agreement to repeatd shocks that resulted in Israel's occupation of part of Lebanon.

The Phalangist leader denounced the shelling of civilian areas including Juniyah. He clearly stated: We can return the shelling but the shells would fall on Lebanese areas and the destruction would affect Lebanon. He said that it is time for the foreigners to leave this country and to halt their barbaric actions.

Diplomatic Sources On Parliamentary Unanimity
NC151320 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Diplomatic sources today said that Lebanon believes current efforts are proceeding normally. The Chamber of Deputies' ratification of the agreement is an important indicator, defining Lebanon's position. The people's representatives have voted in an unprecedented unanimity which embodies the will of the Lebanese.

The parliamentary unanimity, the sources added, amounts to a message to whoever wishes to receive it. Rejecting it is one's own affair. The same sources said that parliamentary unanimity over the agreement is an important step that increases the thrust of support of Lebanon at the U.S., European, and Arab levels. These sources expect all the moves to be diplomatic. Lebanon cannot think that Syria will stop the Israeli military withdrawal from Lebanon in spite of all Syria says, and no Lebanese or Arab can believe this. If Syria has anything to discuss with us, or with Saudi Arabia, or with the United States, then Lebanon is ready for all steps.

These sources described the U.S. stance as excellent. There is no change in this stance but a great insistence on supporting Lebanon.

The sources noted that it is impossible to set a specific time for the diplomatic efforts and their outcome. The sources expressed the belief that talks are being held between Washington and Moscow to avoid any military clashes between Syria and Israel.

The diplomatic sources praised Saudi Arabia's role in helping Lebanon without making much publicity. They affirmed that Saudi Information Minister Lieutenant General 'Ali ash-Sha'ir will visit Lebanon this week.

VOL Reports on 'Mercenaries' in Al-Biqa'
NC151912 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Some communists have arrived in some areas of Al-Mudayrij and Hammana after returning from a training course in Syria. Mercenaries from everywhere are finding opportunities for work in Lebanon.

The Voice of Lebanon radio has learned that an armed group from the PDRY has arrived in Al-Biqa' by way of Syria. This group, comprising about 300 men, is equipped with heavy- and medium-cabliber weapons and is led by a senior officer with the rank of colonel. This group has deployed in the Ad-Dalhamiyah and Barr Ilyas areas and has started to dig trenches. It receives orders from the Syrian forces in Barr Ilyas and 'Anjar.

Moreover, there are 800 Iranians in Al-Biqa'. They are distributed in the areas of Ba'labakk, Al-Hirmil, and Riyaq. In addition, Libyans are deployed in Ad-Dalhamiyah and Barr Ilyas.

Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that members of the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] dissident Fatah group have withdrawn from the area of Ta'lbaya in the direction of Ba'labakk.

Syrians-Palestinians Struggle in Tripoli
NC152047 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Tripoli is witnessing a struggle between the Syrians and the Palestinians for control of the town. The Syrians have selected about 150 members of the intelligence department in the town and given them special tasks. The Syrians have also brought 500 members of the defense squads, dressed as civilians, into the Al-Qubbah and Ba'l Mushin areas and placed them under the command of As-Sa'iqah.

The Fatah movement has been organizing its members inside the town and has reinstated Ahmad al-As'ad, who is famous for committing acts of violence, as head of the 17th Security Department in the north. It has also opened centers in various quarters of the town in preparation for the leaders to move to them.

Clashes in Mountain; Explosions in Beirut
NC160602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] The mountain clashes abated in the early hours today. These clashes had resumed between Suq al-Gharb and 'Aytat at midnight. They included a limited exchange of artillery shelling. The tension extended to Kafr Shima-ash-Shuwayfat area, where sporadic machinegun fire took place, whereas the security situation in the Ash-Shuf was noticeably calm. Meanwhile the Israeli forces have intensified their patrols in all areas under their control.

At 0200 today four successive explosions shocked Beirut. The first explosion was at George Abu Sulayman's place of business in the Union building at the beginning of Spiros Street, destroying and setting fire to the building as well as damaging several vehicles. The second explosion was against Skaf's place of business also in the Union building. The fire brigade came and contained the fire. Several vehicles there were damaged. The third explosion was against the Charlotte confectionery shop in the Sharaf ad-Din building in Bashir al-Qassar street, destroying and setting it on fire. A French woman, Maria Jeau, was wounded and removed to the American University Hospital. The fourth explosion destroyed the Niqula Niqula music records shops in the Adil 'Alamah building in Ar-Rumi street in the Burj Abi Haydar area. Ramzi 'Abd al-Karim Mardini, 'Ali 'Abd al-Karim Mardini, Fayruz Salih Immu, and Jamal Niqula Karam were wounded by flying glass.

Explosions at REUTER, CBS, PETRA in Beirut

NC160606 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] At dawn today, two explosions occurred at the building housing the offices of the REUTER news agency, the American CBS television, and the Jordanian News Agency PETRA. There were no casualties.

Israelis Attacked in Beirut Area 16 June

NC160630 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] The daily heroic military operations against the enemy forces have continued in most of the occupied Lebanese areas. At 0035 today, men of the Lebanese National Resistance attacked an Israeli patrol on the Ash-Shuwayfat road near the Regie crossroads with rocket and machinegun fire. The enemy forces immediately fired flares and began combing the area, opening machinegun fire. This continued until the early hours. The enemy losses as a result of this operation are not yet known.

The combing operation, which was carried out in the areas of Al-Laylakah and Al-'Amrusiyah, was supported by Israeli helicopters.

Radio Reports on Security Situation 16 June

NC160808 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Excerpts] In Sidon, security sources have indicated that an explosive device went off at 1930 yesterday in a rubbish dump near the officers' club in the Al-Villat area. Security sources have reported that an artillery shell fell yesterday afternoon on the police station in Bikfayya causing material damage only.

It was reported from Tripoli this morning that the Al-Qubbah area spent a calm night following yesterday's clashes in which 2 people were killed and 20 others wounded. Two of seven kidnapped persons in Al-Bahsas have been released.

There was an exchange of fire as of 2200 last night in the Al-Batrun ridges until the early hours. No casualties were reported.

In respect of the operations against the Israeli forces, these forces have adopted new precautionary measures against attacks. Throughout the day, yesterday, Israeli tanks and armored vehicles moved along the coastal road while the Israelis continued to thin out their forces at the Al-Biqa' front, where trailers carrying tanks were seen leaving the area. Meanwhile, Israeli planes were flying over the western Al-Biqa' and the south.

Within this framework, the Israeli siege of Dayr Qanun an-Nahr in the Tyre district has entered its 6th day. There are no signs of the siege being lifted. The siege was imposed in the wake of the disappearance of an Israeli soldier in the Al-'Abbasiyah operation. Reports say that personnel manning the Israeli barriers around the township have stopped the water supply to the township thus increasing the citizen's suffering.

Commenting on this subject, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the higher Shi'ite Islamic Council, has said: The persisting Israeli siege of Dayr Qanun an-Nahr, tightening the blockade, and employing various types of terror against its innocent people exposes an image of the Israeli occupation. This does not surprise us because it is the nature of the Israeli occupation and method. Israel is carrying out a collective punishment against thousands of men, women, and children in Dayr Qanun an-Nahr based on allegations and accusations against the township. The Israelis could never prove these allegations although they have arrested scores of men and youths, and made a house-to-house search in the township.

Reportage on Situation in Village Held by IDF

AFP Report 15 June

NC151758 Paris AFP in English 1747 GMT 15 Jun 83

[By Sammy Ketz]

[Text] Tyre, Lebanon, June 15 (AFP) — Israeli troops have kept the southern Lebanese village of Dayr Qanun isolated from the rest of the country for six days following an incident last week in which three Israeli soldies were killed. Convoys from the International Committee of the Red Cross have been turned back 14 times since Friday from the village, where electrical power is off and water supplies are reportedly limited to wells.

Residents of a neighboring village said no supplies had been allowed in since Friday, and the some 2,000 people in Dayr Qanun were under an almost total curfew. Allowed out of their homes for only an hour each afternoon, they were reportedly reduced to living off stores and through barter for food.

The Israelis, who manned a barbed-wire barricade on the road into the town, also kept out members of the Senegalese contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, nominally in charge of the sector.

Residents said some 200 people had been arrested by the Israelis and taken to their command headquarters here, reportedly in connection with the disappearance of an Israeli soldier during last week's incident.

The Israeli army has, however, denied this, and has spoken of only a dozen arrests.

According to villagers, the Israelis were not alone in Dayr Qanun. Arrests were also made by forces of dissident Lebanese Major Sa'd Haddad. Two jeeps belonging to the Haddad forces were seen leaving the village today by reporters at the Israeli roadblock.

Israeli troops, who reportedly burned wheat fields and olive groves at the site of the attack, set off rocket flares through the night. Automatic arms fire was said intended to frighten the population.

Questioned about Dayr Qanun, the Israeli army spokesman in Sidon, Captain Moshe Cohen, said it was a "village of communists."

But he expressed surprise at news of a blockade, saying, "We having never yet received orders to use such methods in southern Lebanon. So far, they exist only in Gaza and the West Bank. If it were true in Dayr Qanun, it would signify a change in policy."

Capt Cohen, who said light weapons fire was heard from the village Friday, denied there had been a kidnapping. He blamed last week's incident on three "Palestinians."

Investigators had identified them, he said, but the army had not yet been able to arrest them.

In Beirut, meanwhile, Dayr Qanun villagers currently residing in the Lebanese capital issued an appeal for an end to the blockade.

They said there had been three miscarriages, 10 cases of depression and, among children, a large number of cases of malnutrition and illness since the village was cut off from the rest of the world.

The appeal also accused Israeli soldiers of "acts of terrorism" and of attempts to spread fear among women and children by firing over their heads and by destroying olive trees, which are the chief source of revenue for the village.

The official Lebanese radio, meanwhile, reported that Israeli forces had destroyed the village's olive groves and refused entry to a truck carrying water for the population.

VOAL Report 16 June

NC160800 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] In Sidon, an explosive device went off last night near the officers club in the (Al-Villat) quarter, close to an enemy forces position. Another explosion also occurred in Sham'un quarter, causing only material damage.

Meanwhile, the Zionist occupation forces are continuing their military and supply siege of the town of Dayr Qanun an-Nahr for the 7th day running. It was revealed yesterday that 3 pregnant women have miscarried and 10 other persons have suffered nervous breakdowns as a result of the intimidation and fright imposed by the enemy forces on the inhabitants, and the shortage of food and medical supplies.

According to information from the south, the occupation forces have prevented Red Cross vehicles, carrying food and medical supplies, and water and fuel trucks from entering the besieged town.

Inhabitants of neighboring villages have said that the sound of machinegun fire was heard last night at the entrance to the town of Dayr Qanun an-Nahr.

The town's inhabitants have issued a statement calling on Arab and international public opinion to intervene to end the siege. They also called on the Lebanese officials to intercede to put an end to the tragedy they are experiencing.

The committee of Ulama in Jabal 'Amil has called the Ulama to meet in Husayniyat Harat Sidon this afternoon to study the situation in the town.

VOH: Haddad Warns Agreement Opponents

JN140931 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] Major Haddad, commander of free Lebanon has commented on various topics of the hour as follows:

First, we call on the honorable deputies not to take a long time to study and debate the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. All we request them to do is to approve it as quickly as possible. Whoever opposes this agreement will be taught a lesson he will never forget.

Second, we call on the Damascus rulers to spare us their evil. We do not thank them for their concern over our independence, because our independence is only violated by the 'Alawite invader. Our independence will only be restored by Israel, our loyal neighbor. As for Lebanon's Arab identity, all Lebanese are innocent of it, because we will leave Arabdom's remnants to the Syrians and African Libyans. We will only accept Lebanon's Lebanese identity. As for Syria's security, we are not responsible for it. If the 'Alawites are indeed concerned about Syria's security, then they should protect it from the Golan. Let 'Alawite chivalry regain the Golan if they can. Therefore, in view of the above, the best that Hafiz al-Asad can do is to pull his gangs out of Lebanon and leave Lebanon to the Lebanese.

Third, Lebanon has repeatedly requested through its president the convocation of an Arab summit to discuss the subject of the withdrawal of the Syrian occupation forces from Lebanon, but nobody has responded. But when the first swindler [ballas] Yasir 'Arafat called for an Arab summit to discuss a unified strategy, his call received immediate response. How can we have confidence in any Arab state when they are treating us in this way?

This supports our viewpoint that we are not Arabs and that the Arabs are the enemies of Lebanon.

Fourth, I would like to answer [Lebanese National Bloc leader] Raymond Iddih's deliberations in the Lebanese press yesterday. But before doing that, I would like to point out that Iddih's prolonged absence from Lebanon has deprived him of realism and immersed him in dreams. I would like to assure him that the deputies had previously approved the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the current debate session is only an act of courtesy and a formality to avoid censure. Here are the answers to all Iddih's questions:

1. To Syria and Jordan, Israel's recognized boundaries pass through Damascus and Amman.

2. The border between Lebanon and Israel is the armistice border between Lebanon and the former Palestine, or what is now Israel. Lebanon will have the additional advantage of regaining certain villages which were previously under dispute.

3. This knot is being unraveled with the United States. So Iddih can declare war on the United States.

4. This agreement is not like a peace treaty, but is a real peace treaty.

5. We do not have much confidence in the UN Security Council and what it has to say.

6. The infiltrations were from Lebanon into Israel, not vice versa, and Lebanon was not in a position to prevent them. Israel enteredLebanon to strike at the saboteurs who operated against Lebanon's wish. Israel did not enter to strike at the Lebanese.

7. Israel and its allies are the ones who determine the nature of the threats and the hostile elements. The precautionary measures are that any hostile elements entering the south will be dealt with by Israel and the Lebanese Army, if the Lebanese Army alone is unable to deal with them.

8. The cancellation of the freedom of expression in Lebanon is a boon, most of the news media in Lebanon speak for old men.

9. Military weapons and hardware destined for Arab countries must not arrive through Beirut or any other port, because in the end such weapons will be used against Lebanon. To those who will supervise the implementation, we say that we do not object to the deployment of the Israeli army with the Lebanese Army in Beirut since we have become allies.

10. Lebanon's sovereignty and freedom will not be affected, if Lebanon is able to reject the forces of any state with which it does not have diplomatic relations.

11. This is not for the sake of being polite, but of normalizing relations.

12. This agreement not only provides for the cancellation of the Cairo agreement and the joint defense pact, but also for the severance of relations with any Arab state which does not sign a peace treaty with Israel.

Finally, we hope that we have provided answers to what Iddih considers vague.

Government 'Ready' For Exchange of Viewpoints

JN151356 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] There is much talk about Syria these days. U.S. officials at all levels are busy making statements about the possibilities of persuading Syria to acquiesce in the agreement of Lebanese submission to U.S.-Israeli coercion and to discuss the topics which might be raised with it in future contacts. These officials do not forget to make certain hints about the subject of the Golan and to say that they are taking Syria's security interests in Lebanon into consideration. The Lebanese officials who have involved themselves in the ill-famed agreement do not miss any opportunity to express their concern for the relations with Syria and to spread word about the possibilities to make Syria reconsider its attitude toward the U.S.-Israeli agreement, which has been imposed on Lebanon, and to enter into negotiations and contacts to specify Syrian demands and regulate the relations between Lebanon and Syria on the basis that the agreement has become an established fact. What remains for those Lebanese officials, who speak about the stands which would be adopted by Syria and the contacts which would be held with it, is to speak in the name of Syria and to say that they are conveying the information which they have obtained from the U.S. officials they met with.

The proponents of the agreement in Washington and Tel Aviv may be in need of this campaign of spreading confusion, deception, illusions, and dreams to make the people, who are now witnessing the downfall of the agreement in its present form almost immediately after its birth, believe that this agreement has a chance to stay, even at the expense of distributing other parts of the independent and soveriegn territory of Lebanon among other parties. It is definite that the Lebanese officials, who have involved themselves in the Israeli-U.S. agreement and who are now facing a strong growing opposition at home and a violent Arab denunciation for the process of separating Lebanon from its Arab environment and placing it under U.S. and Israeli control, now need anything that will give the impression that Syria might stop its opposition to the agreement and all that it entails such as major concessions to Israel and the threat to the security of Syria and the Arab nation.

But this intensive propaganda campaign by the proponents of the agreement of submission will not change the situation. It will not affect or distort Syria's stand in the interest of those who have surrendered to the United States and Israel. The Syrian stand on the agreement of submission as announced by President Hafiz al-Asad is firm, decisive, and final. This stand cannot change under any circumstances, any form of pressure and threat, or any kind of real or false enticement. Syria does not change its stands as some people change their clothes and masks. Syria does not say one thing and do another as some Lebanese officials have done. Syria's policy is principled, ethical, and committed to pan-Arab and Syrian national interests. Syria is sensitive to its responsibility toward its nation, including the fraternal Lebanese people and their security and independence. Syria has already declared its opinion on the agreement of submission. It has declared it to Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim and to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. It has also published this opinion in the press and announced it in the other news media. Moreover, Syrian officials have reiterated it on several occasions. This opinion, which is based on a careful study and a realistic assessment of the situation, the balance of powers, and the effects of the agreement and the consequences it may have on Lebanon and its security, independence, sovereignty, unity and existence as well as the security of Syria and the Arab nation, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the required efforts to achieve a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the region, cannot be the subject of compromise or give and take.

Syria is ready to acquaint anyone with its viewpoints, opinions, and visualizations. It does not fear discussion and the exchange of opinions. What it says in the contacts and talks with others is the same as what it announces to the Syrian and Arab masses. What it considers essential for the achievement of peace has been announced in all forums. It also exists in the UN resolutions concerning Israel's withdrawal from all the territories it occupied during the 1967 aggression and the recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's national rights, including their right to determine their own destiny and establish their national state on their land. All these rights are contained in the UN Charter, which prohibits the acquisition of other people's territories by force and guarantees the right of every people to self-determination on their land. It is on the basis of these main principles of peace in the region that the talk with Syria will be useful. Talk on the basis of the agreement of submission will be useless.

Further Reaction to Approval of Agreement

Palestine Broadcast

JN152108 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Palestine Broadcast: From "On the Events" Program]

[Text] Brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: By approving the contract of submission and capitulation, the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies has added shame to the so-called legislative branch in Lebanon. This shame has also been added to the executive branch, which previously agreed to this agreement. This event condemns the class, feudal, bourgeois, and sectarian structure and the mentality which controls the political system in Lebanon, including the legislative and executive branches, and the functional and administrative bodies which constitute the aberrant political situation France left as a legacy when it gave Lebanon its independence. Its politicial structure was shackled to a chauvinist sectarian trend at the time of independence.

Now Lebanon is facing the most serious stage in the history of the state. The national unity, which was an aspiration and a framework for coexistence, no longer has any form or essence. The poor, the wretched, and the Lebanese working class of the various sects must seek their course apart from that rotten ultra structure, which accepted this shame. This means that this ultra structure has lost its contact with the people. Moreover, it has lost the respect of the people. On the same level, it has put Lebanon's relations with the Arabs at an impasse, whose results

it will not be able to avoid, regardless of U.S. and reactionary assurances.

The Lebanese people are now face to face with a difficult and long-term battle against the Zionist enemy, those who collaborate with it, and those who submit to its will. The Lebanese people are now in the midst of the conflict against the Zionist enemy. The Lebanese national resistance has become the candidate for escalating and transforming the war into a real and broad popular war, which will be a part of a broad Arab struggle movement. It will also become a vanguard of this movement whose mission is to conquer this enemy and to force it to withdraw at a time when the enemy is trying to expand at the expense of the Arab territory and to occupy more of this territory.

TISHRIN Article

JN160811 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 16 Jun 83

[From the press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" column and under the headline "The Chamber's Decision and the People's Decision," today's newspaper *Tishrin* writes: The 65 members of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies acted exactly like the ostrich. They closed their eyes to what is happening in Lebanon, hid their heads in the ground which the Israeli invading forces are daily desecrating, and approved the contract of submission worked out by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in accordance with Israel's historical biblical ambitions and in complete agreement with the Phalangist authority, which is assuming power in fraternal Lebanon.

The Lebanese Chamber of Deputies has authorized Amin al-Jumayyil's government to conclude and implement the contract of submission, or to implement those articles which can be implemented and which do not conflict with Israel's conditions which link the implementation of the agreement with Syria's approval of it and of withdrawing its forces from Lebanon. For example, U.S.-Israeli-Lebanese coordination is currently underway to redeploy the Israeli forces in Lebanon as a step toward implementing some articles of the agreement. These articles deal with the opening of borders and consecrating the economic and military occupation.

Tishrin adds: The Lebanese deputies who voted for the agreement ignored this fact as well as other facts confirming that Lebanon has lost its political and economic independence and become a small servant of Israel in all domains.

The paper asks: Does the Chamber of Deputies' approval of the agreement mean the approval of our people in Lebanon? The Lebanese deputies are supposed to represent all the Lebanese people. The present Chamber of Deputies was elected more than 13 years ago and due to civil war no legislative elections were held. The deputies automatically remained in office. During the 7 years preceding the Israeli invasion our masses discovered that the Chamber comprised deputies who do not really represent them and who got involved in working against their interests in favor of Israel and the enemies of Lebanon in general. Even if we disregard this clear-cut fact, we will find that what is taking place in Lebanon completely clashes with the desire of the authority and the deputies supporting it and that the authority is not concerned about what the Lebanese people want and is working against the people's interests.

The authority which arrests its citizens and calls on its prosecution to execute them on charges of attacking an Israeli patrol and killing three Israeli soldiers cannot possibly represent our people in Lebanon. We can frankly say that this authority represents Begin's government. It is true that the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies has decided to support the agreement. However, the people's decision is expressed in the daring operations the Lebanese nationalist resistance is carrying out in Lebanon against the invading forces. It is also expressed in the Lebanese nationalist forces' rejection of the agreement. There is a world of difference between the Chamber of Deputies' decision and that of our people in Lebanon.

PDRY Envoy Arrives in Damascus With Message

JN151852 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Salih Munsir as-Sayli, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the PDRY State Security Committee, arrived in Damascus at 1700 today. He has a message for President Hafiz al-Asad from Yemeni leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He was welcomed at the airport by Comrade Ahmad Diyab,member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's Regional Command and chairman of the pan-Arab security office; the PDRY ambassador in Damascus; and the embassy staff.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, As-Sayli said: Leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has asked me to convey a message to his brother President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the recent political developments in the Arab arena. This message comes within the framework of exchanging opinions in order to strengthen the cohesion of the front of progressive and pan-Arab forces in the face of all aggressive and expansionist designs in the Arab region.

Debate Continues on Next Move in Lebanon

Arens on Withdrawal, Redeployment

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[Defense Minister Professor Moshe Arens interviewed on Moqed Program by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir, Yoram Ronen, and Dan Scemama]

[Text] [Ahime'ir] Good evening. This evening's Moqed program deals mainly with the IDF in Lebanon.

These are times in which the possibility of a unilateral IDF withdrawal in Lebanon is one of the issues at the top of the agenda. We will also deal with the profound internal dispute here concerningthe IDF presence in Lebanon and the attacks against our soldiers there. This evening's guest of Moqed is Defense Minister Moshe Arens. He took office about 4 months ago. Here with me in the studio are our political correspondent Yoram Ronen and our military correspondent Dan Scemama. Mr Minister, good evening.

[Arens] Good evening.

[Ahime'ir] Professor Arens, on the first anniversary of the war in Lebanon, people are now speaking, as we said, about a withdrawal — about the possibility of a unilateral IDF withdrawal in Lebanon or a new deployment to a new line in Lebanon. Do you favor such an IDF withdrawal?

[Arens] I hear talk about a unilateral withdrawal, even a demand for a unilateral withdrawal. I think that most of the country's citizens do not support such a move, because they understand that a unilateral withdrawal from our positions in Lebanon would simply move the campaign of attacks from Lebanon and from a campaign against the IDF to Israel's northern border and the possibility and risk of attacks against the civilian population. If and when we deploy differently in Lebanon, we will have to see to it that nonhostile, friendly forces take over the territory we evacuate.

[Ronen] This being so, what is the meaning of the term unilateral withdrawal?

[Arens] A unilateral withdrawal, I think, according to the definition, is simply to get onto the armored personnel carriers, to get in the tanks, and get out and I hear people saying, 'peace now,' demanding just that. I think this is a most grave mistake,and no sane person wants this because it is a danger to the Israeli civilian population.

[Scemama] What do you call a different deployment?

[Arens] A different deployment is changing deployment in coordination with the Lebanese Administration, in coordination with the Multinational Force which will guarantee that when we we evacuate an area, it will be a buffer zone and neither the PLO nor the Syrian Army will enter that buffer zone, but rather the Lebanese Army and perhaps the MNF.

[Scemema] And are you in favor of such a deployment, for instance, to the Al-'Awwali line, which is being mentioned, and for which line the IDF is preparing plans for a possible deployment?

[Arens] Such a deployment — the building up of such a buffer zone, preventing the entry of the PLO and the Syrian Army into such a buffer zone — must be done in coordination with the Lebanese Administration, and with the U.S. Administration. We will discuss this; we will coordinate these things. It seems to me that there is no logic and no benefit in my telling you now whether this should be on this or that line. We have done the research work. We are prepared for such coordination. We have no few alternatives.

[Ahime'ir] This being so, you are in favor of such a deployment?

[Arens] In general, of course. Every one of us would like to lessen the burden under which we are suffering.

[Scemama] Mr Minister: 3 weeks ago you said we would wait for another few weeks for Syria's answer about the evacuation of its forces from Lebanon. As I said, 3 weeks have already passed. How much longer will we wait until we take up a new deployment or until we make some sort of a decision?

[Arens] If you are implying that we are simply waiting with folded arms, well, the situation is not like that. I think you know it is not like that. We are thinking, planning, beginning to speak about this issue with the elements with whom we have to cooperate, and I assume that we will also arrive at results, with the best result from our viewpoint being, of course, a Syrian withdrawal from all of Lebanon, and a PLO withdrawal from all of Lebanon. I would not say that this is completely hopeless — without any chance. I would like to stress that if the Syrians come to the conclusion that there is pressure in Israel which, in the end, will lead to a unilateral withdrawal of our forces, then of course they will not leave. For the moment there is an assessment that this is an existing possibility.

[Scemama] Mr Minister: You say you believe that the Syrians will leave. The head of the IDF intelligence branch has said that the Syrian refusal to leave Lebanon is not a tactical step, but one of principle, and the question is, how long will we wait for such an answer from the Syrians? Could it be that we will wait for months more?

[Arens] Dan, I think you must understand — you are a military correspondent — that if I tell you today that we will wait for 3 weeks, then I will have closed the lid on the possibility of the Syrians leaving. They would wait for the 3 weeks, until our departure, and they would remain. So it seems to me that it is not worth my mentioning this or that date to you.

[Scemama] But is there a date — is there a target date beyond which we will not wait?

[Arens] We are not speaking in terms of dates. We are examining the spectrum of possibilities and we will do what must be done to guarantee the security of our population and, as far as possible, the security of our soldiers.

[Ronen] For instance, do you believe that we will spend another winter in Lebanon?

[Arens] I would not expect that.

[Scemama] Professor Arens: Let us consider the possibility that — perhaps it is somewhat hypothetical for you — that the United States does not agree that we should deploy or redeploy in Lebanon. Would we carry out this redeployment even without the U.S. Administration's agreement?

[Arens] Our deployment, our decisions, do not depend on the agreement of the U.S. Administration. After all, this is well known. They depend — first and foremost — and they are connected solely with our security considerations, and if it turns out that we cannot agree on coordination... I do not expect this. All the signs today are to the contrary. I know there are those who are speaking about U.S. pressure and that the Americans will not be prepared for such a thing and so, for the moment, it seems quite different. So it appears to me that it is not even worthwhile for us to think in terms of what will happen if it turns out that we are not able to coordinate this. Why should we not be able to achieve coordination? In such an event, we — us, the Americans,and the Lebanese — we have a common interest.

[Ronen] Do you agree, for example, with the view of Minister Sharon, who says we should come down from the Ash-Shuf mountains at once, even without the Americans' agreement?

[Arens] I have just said that coming down at once means that PLO forces and the Syrian Army will enter the area we evacuate. We would simply move the line of contact — the line of the campaign — closer to the Israeli border. There is no logic in that.

[Ahime'ir] Professor Arens: We heard a tone of optimism from you, it appears to me, that the Syrians will evacuate Lebanon. Are you prepared to expand on this point? On what is your optimism based?

[Arens] I would not like you to interpret my remarks as optimistic in that sense. We have already learned that it is very difficult to predict what will be decided by the Syrian ruler and I don't think any one of us knows. We do know, though, that the current situation — if he can be certain that we will evacuate the territory unilaterally — then he will certainly remain, and it would be very good for all those people who are demonstrating in the streets here to know this — that in fact they are guaranteeing that Syria will remain in Lebanon if they succeed. However, if he cannot be sure of this, his situation in Lebanon now is not convenient. The Government of Lebanon, which was established after the Peace for Galilee campaign, is not like its predecessor — it is not a Syrian puppet government. It is demanding that the Syrians leave. Other Arab countries are demanding that the Syrians leave. The Western world is demanding that the Syrians leave. The IDF presence in Lebanon, close to the Syrian border, is not convenient, from a military aspect, for the Syrians. Therefore there are reasons to remain; there are also reasons to leave. They may decide to leave.

[Ahime'ir] One more question on this matter, defense minister. Have we, for instance, asked the United States to use its influence or its contacts with the Soviet Union, to influence Syria to evacuate its forces from Lebanon?

[Arens] We have not asked this, and I think that we are finding ourselves in a situation in which there are common interests on the one hand between Israel, Lebanon — an Arab country — and the United States and, against this, common interests between the PLO, Syria, and the Soviets, and so I do not predict that the Soviets will put pressure on the Syrians to leave.

[Ahime'ir] Do we know — do you know — does Israel know about any dialogue between the two powers, now, on the Lebanese issue?

[Arens] I do not know. As far as I know, the contacts there have been have been mainly in the field of interpower relations, as they take part [as heard] in the Middle East.

[Ahime'ir] And the Middle East has not come up in the talks between the two superpowers, as far as is known?

[Arens] That is something you would have to ask the people who participated in those contacts.

[Scemama] Is it possible that the focus of all this dispute between Israel and Syria in Lebanon is, in fact, in the hands of the two powers now — in the hands of the United States and the Soviet Union?

[Arens] No, I think that this is not so at all. It is clear that the main actors in this drama, if you will, are Israel, Syria, and Lebanon and I think that it is worth paying attention to the fact that what has been happening in Lebanon over the last few weeks is something impressive. A government — not a puppet government; a government with procedures, I would say; the most democratic that exists in the Arab world — has signed an agreement with us, and it has now ratified the agreement after a free debate in the parliament. It is building relations with us, creating a basis. A basis has been created for commonality of interests with us. I would not sneer at this.

I hear many Israelis, actually those from the dove wing, actually those who always speak about peace and even Peace Now, and I am surprised at their contempt for Lebanon, the Government of Lebanon, the president of Lebanon, that they have demonstrated. I have seen a considerable amount of courage and leadership over the last few weeks.

[Scemama] Professor Arens: People who express skepticism about the stability of the government in Lebanon may simply be basing their views on past experience. We have had very terrible experience with what occurs inside Lebanon, and what is guiding the people who are skeptical about a strong regime in Lebanon — as you describe it — is simply past experience. We have bitter experience, as you know, with what occurs inside Lebanon — within it.

[Arens] Look, we have experience. I do not know whether it is worth calling it bitter experience, in the Middle East. We are living in the Middle East... [interrupted]

[Scemama] No, but with regard to the specific question...[interrupted]

[Arens] Yes, I understand what you said, and around us are countries that do not have the stability of democratic countries, that do not have the stability of the State of Israel, not one of them, or the stability of the countries of Western Europe or the United States. There may be those among us who would prefer to conduct negotiations with Al-Asad or even with 'Arafat instead of with Al-Jumayyil, but if you ask me, I think there is a great advantage to speaking with Al-Jumayyil for the purposes of negotiations. By this, what I mean is that I believe that there is a 100 percent expectation that the Lebanese Administration will be stable. I think it is worth stressing that we are interested in its being stable — that we must work for it to be stable because we will build a neighboring country friendly to Israel if its administration is stable.

[Scemama] Professor Arens: If we take a step backward for the moment, do you not fear that the new line to which we will perhaps retreat could be a focus for a war of attrition between the IDF and the terrorists? You said that we would only retreat to such a line if a multinational force or another force enters to replace us in areas we evacuate, but from our experience, for example, the MNF controls Beirut, and in Beirut itself there are 1,000 terrorists and they are working against our forces from Beirut.

[Arens] The danger exists. I would say that the entire Peace for Galilee campaign, after many years of terrorist actions against Israel, against the north — and, by the way, I would like to remind you that we have now gone through a year in which there have been almost no attacks inside Israel. It has been many years since we have had such a year, and this is a result of the IDF presence in Lebanon.

[Scemama] Yes, but it seems to me that this has no end, Mr Minister, because during this year we have had 500 killed.

[Arens] There was a war. Not the first war in the history of Israel. What I wanted to tell you is that the war — the goal of the war — was to build a buffer in Lebanon, to guarantee that there would be no terrorist bases close to the border of the state of Israel. It seems to me that we have come very close to achieving that goal. If we are not careful — if we withdraw unilaterally — we could lose what we have achieved.

If we are considered in our decisions, I think there is a very good chance that the PLO forces and the Syrian Army will not enter the territory we evacuate. Then you will see a very appreciable improvement in Israel's security situation.

[Ronen] Professor Arens: You are saying that in the last year there were hardly any terrorist attacks inside Israel but, in contrast, there were many attacks inside Lebanon, under the very nose of the IDF which is stationed almost in the whole of Lebanon. These attacks caused hundreds of dead and thousands of wounded people....

[Arens — interrupting] When you talk about hundreds of dead, are you referring to the war?

[Ronen] Yes, I am referring to the war, certainly.

[Arens] You are not referring to the recent period.

[Ronen] No, I am referring to the year of the war. I am talking about a rising wave of terrorist attacks, a wave which has been rising also in the last few weeks. The question is whether the IDF is at all capable of curbing this rising wave.

[Arens] To our regret, we have had a relatively long experience in dealing with terrorist attacks and with acts of terror. We also have the capability to deal with it. Of course, I would not say that at a time when the IDF is in Lebanon and serves as a buffer between the terrorists and the civilian population we can find ways to absolutely and totally prevent any attack on us. However, we are using our brains and our experience in looking for the answers. All those people who demonstrate in front of the prime minister's residence displaying a scoreboard on which they try each day or each week to update the death toll, were they to visit Lebanon as I have done lately, and as I frequently do, and see the soldiers who are waging this campaign, I do not think they would demonstrate again.

[Scemama] Mr Defense Minister: I have seen those soldiers many times. Each time I arrive there they ask me: When do we get out? We want to leave. When do we get out of here?

[Arens] Well, you apparently choose special soldiers....

[Scemama — interrupting] Believe me that I only drive on the roads and I meet them at random and I do not choose anybody, I simply listen to them.

[Arens] Well then, you see, two people visit the same place and receive different reactions. I visited Lebanon a few days ago and, among other places, I visited two sites where we suffered tragic incidents last week....

[Scemama — interrupting] In Galerie Sim'an and in Tyre.

[Arens] In Galerie Sim'an where the booby-trapped car exploded and in Dayr Qanun which incidentally is close to the Israeli border, south of the Litani River. In both sites I spoke with soldiers belonging to the units that were affected. I spoke with the battalion commander in the reserves in Galerie Sim'an, the man whose remarks were quoted at the funeral. I asked him: How is the morale? He replied: It is all right; tight as a fist. And this is exactly the position and the mood I found at Dayr Qanun, at a unit of reservists of a relatively old age who have served 90 days in the reserves this year. They clearly understand what they are doing and why they must do it.

[Ronen] Professor Arens: Do you not hear questions such as: When will we finally get out of this mud in Lebanon?

[Arens] Of course, soldiers want to know what lies ahead of them. I think most of them realize that the word mud is not the appropriate word, unless you mean to say that the entire Middle East is in mud — and we live in the Middle East. There is no way out of it. Of course, they want to know, and they want to go back home. Who does not want to go back home? Have you ever met

a soldier or a reservist who does not want to complete his service and go back home even if they do not serve in Lebanon?

I would say that — unlike what Dan has heard — I find the job of explaining the situation to the soldiers is not difficult because people understand what we are talking about. Look, on my way to Galerie Sim'an I passed along the coastal road a site where we have had quite a number of incidents — this is only natural since it is the IDF's main artery. IDF soldiers get up in the morning and open the axis — that is the term used by the IDF. These young soldiers walk around and expose themselves to danger in order to check that bombs and traps have not been planted on the side of the road. They endanger their lives and show great courage. I did not find even one soldier who told me: What am I doing here? I am not prepared to do the same thing tomorrow; I have opened the axis today but I will not do it again tomorrow. I did not hear such things.

[Scemama] Of course, I also did not hear any soldier say that he would not do the same job the next day.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Minister: I would like to ask you another question on the issue of the IDF's security policy in light of the wave of incidents. The impression has always been that the IDF conducts acts of reprisal against people or terrorists who try to attack the IDF soldiers and the IDF has always conducted preemptive attacks against the terrorists. It seems to me that this is not the case in Lebanon at present. There is a different concept of defending our soldiers in convoys; a more hedgehog, defensive and passive position.

[Arens] Ya'aqov, I would not say that there is not such a thing,but we do not always publicize it. I would also not hope or expect such things not to happen in the future.

[Scemema] Will the IDF carry out acts of reprisal against the terrorists?

[Arens] Dan, you are a military correspondent. I have said enough, haven't I?

[Scemama] Also against those terrorists in the territory controlled by the Syrians?

[Arens] Do you really want me to elaborate on this point?

[Ahime'ir] Mr Minister: I would now like to go over to the link between the military situation in Lebanon and the internal dispute in Israel. Do you subscribe to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's view that due to the opposition's internal criticism our death toll in Lebanon increased? What is your attitude toward Shamir's remarks?

[Arens] Look, it will do no good to give you my reaction to the remarks of this or that minister. I can only give you my own position and assessment on what I think about these demonstrations. Only today I tried to look into the matter and I was told that there are about eight different groups ranging from Peace Now to There Is A Limit, Concerned Parents, Concerned Soldiers, No To the War Medal,and who knows what else. I do not know about the connections among them and what is the background of each group. I do not know whether they represent a significant part of the population, although I am inclined to believe that they do not, but I do not know that for certain. I know that they might cause serious damage but I would not like to elaborate.

Why is that so? Because we are a small country and nation standing up to unprecedented forces in history because of its motivation and its ability to mobilize itself and exert every effort. That is also the perception — that is the way we are seen beyond the border. If, God forbid, as a result of these demonstrations, people in Damascus and maybe in other Arab capitals start to believe that the situation will from now on change, that not everybody will be ready to enlist when necessary, that not everybody is willing to fight whenever and wherever necessary; if such a thing were to happen — and I hope it does not — we will do everything to prevent it because that would be a misconception — we might pay a dear price for it.

[Ronen] Do you mean to say that despite what you say time and again — that you have found the IDF soldiers in Lebanon standing steadfast and enjoying high morale — the internal dispute in Israel could affect their ability to resist?

[Arens] I think that the internal dispute in Israel could affect the perception of Israel in Damascus and other Arab capitals and that might be dangerous.

[Ronen] But it will not affect the IDF soldiers?

[Arens] As far as I can tell from my visits in the army, the answer is no.

[Scemama] Prof Arens: Sharp criticism was leveled in the Cabinet against the media, saying that they exaggerate in their coverage of casualties and the funerals of IDF soldiers. Do you support this criticism?

[Arens] It is hard for me to assess it objectively. Generally speaking, I would say that we must not hide the pain, the suffering,and the bereavement. When a soldier is killed, it not only brings bereavement to the pertinent family but to all Israelis. In my opinion, it is important for all Israelis to realize the price we are paying. I am not in favor of hiding such things. It is important that we know what the price is. I am inclined to believe, however — I do not know whether I am being completely objective — that here and there, there are attempts to put special emphasis on this by resorting to exaggeration. Today I saw on the front page of some paper a report that another day had passed and that there were three attempted terrorist attacks. We have gone through many days, thank God, in which we did not witness any successful terrorist attacks due to the IDF's efforts. An attempt was made in this case, however, to portray a situation in which there were attempts to carry out terrorist attacks. When has Israel lived without experiencing attempts to carry out terrorist attacks? When the death toll is shown on the front page and in the headlines, sometimes I start to wonder whether there is not a certain tendentiousness in this coverage.

[Ahime'ir] Where do you draw the line between hiding or not hiding? What is the limit you see?

[Arens] I think these are things you can judge better than I. This is a professional matter...

[Ahime'ir — interrupting] We would like to hear the defense minister's point of view.

[Scemama] We, of course, do not think the reporting is tendentious. We simply report on these issues because we believe they are of interest to the public.

[Arens] If you are right, then I am glad. I am not criticizing television here. As far as I can see, coverage is relatively objective. I think nobody can be objective all the time,and nobody can deviate from objective criteria all the time. I perceive tendentiousness in some members of the media, however, and I do not think it is called for in these difficult days.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Minister: I would like to go over to the question of the prisoners and the missing soldiers held by the Syrians. Has there been any progress regarding the release of the prisoners and have there been any confirmed reports about the fate of the missing soldiers?

[Arens] No progress has been made regarding the prisoners held by the Syrian Army despite the fact that we are holding 300 Syrian prisoners while they are holding only 3 Israelis. The Syrian prisoners are kept in much better conditions than the conditions available to our three prisoners. We are prepared to exchange the 300 for the 3 Israelis tomorrow morning, but it seems that there is no readiness whatsoever on the Syrian part to discuss this issue at this stage. As for the prisoners held by the PLO and the missing soldiers, contacts are held and this has been publicized. We hope these contacts will ultimately bring about their release.

[Scemama] Are we also ready to release the 5,000 terrorists kept prisoner at Ansar in exchange for the prisoners held by the PLO?

[Arens] Dan, on this issue too, I think you will agree with me that it would really not be wise if I disclosed details about the contacts and our positions on Israeli television.

[Scemama] I only asked that because you talked about exchanging the 300 Syrian prisoners in exchange for our prisoners held by them.

[Arens] In this case, I think it is clear that this is our position, and the Syrians also know it. In case there are contacts with the PLO — I hope so, and as far as I know such contacts will be held — I think it will serve no purpose if I said here what our position will be exactly.

[Ronen] Prof Arens: It has been recently reported that indirect negotiations with the PLO will soon open in Geneva with the presence of, or under the aegis of, the Red Cross regarding the release of the prisoners.

[Arens] That is true. The contacts will be held with the offices of the Red Cross.

[Ronen] In Geneva, soon?

[Arens] Again, it would be inadvisable to divulge the exact venue and date of the contacts, but we are heading in that direction.

[Ahime'ir] Another issue made the headlines recently: the former head of the Mossad, Yitzhaq Hofi, said the prime minister should be appointed an adviser on intelligence affairs because, according to him, Mr Begin does not possess the tools required to understand all the security data channeled to him. What is your opinion on this matter, in your capacity as defense minister?

[Arens] There may be people who think that since the State of Israel has a vast range of security problems it is important that the ministers, and perhaps also the prime minister, should be military men. We have had quite a few defense ministers who had been military men. I am not a former general and I did not have a high rank in my military life.

[Ronen] And you do not have an adviser on intelligence affairs.

[Arens] I have many advisers in the army, of course. However, it is a matter of perception. There may be people who think that ministers, the defense minister, and also the prime minister in Israel should be people with a military background, people who should come from the army's ranks, people who should be major generals or lieutenant generals in the reserves. I do not subscribe to this opinion. I do not think that is necessary. However, I would not disqualify a man who is a major general in the reserves from serving in the Cabinet. In my opinion, to fill the Cabinet with military men and demand that the prime minister be a former military man is unnecessary and even bad.

[Scemama] If he is not a former military man does the prime minister need an adviser on intelligence affairs?

[Arens] Everybody in the Cabinet, and certainly the prime minister, needs advisers. The prime minister has advisers. Whether it is important that he should have an adviser bearing the title of adviser on intelligence affairs in addition to his military aide-de-camp — I think this must be left for him to decide.

[Scemama] Mr Minister: We will go to another subject. You are scheduled to participate in a meeting tomorrow along with the justice and interior ministers to discuss the enforcement of the law in Judaea and Samaria. What are the principles guiding you on this issue?

[Arens] I think I have announced them, and we may announce them publicly once again in order to avoid any mistakes or misunderstandings. I am in favor of enforcing the law in Israel, in Judaea and Samaria, in the Gaza District without any prejudice. I am against having citizens take the law into their own hands, regardless of whether they are Arabs or Jews, period.

[Ronen] Prof Arens: MK Dror Zeigerman complained this week that we are selling arms to Argentina, a country where some 1,000 Jews have disappeared in the last few years. Do you not regard the policy of arms sales to Argentina these days as a moral flaw?

[Arens] I am not sure the facts MK Zeigerman had were correct and confirmed. When I was the ambassador to the United States

I heard that Israel was selling Skyhawks to Argentina. Everybody knows, just as you know, that we bought Skyhawks from the United States and that we are not allowed to sell them to any other country without U.S. permission.

[Ronen] We are not selling only Skyhawks to Argentina.

[Arens] I only cited this as an example. A propaganda campaign is being waged in the world by elements unfriendly toward Israel who are trying to depict Israel as the main arms supplier to Argentina. In fact, I think I would not be telling anything new by telling you that the main arms supplier to Argentina until the Falklands war was Britain. The Argentine Navy aircraft carrier was bought from the British.

[Ahime'ir] That is to say, you do not see a flaw in the Israeli arms sales to Argentina at a time when Jews are disappearing there?

[Arens] If what you are saying is — that in your opinion, Israel should declare an embargo...

[Ahime'ir — interrupting] I am only asking.

[Arens] If you are asking whether Israel should declare an embargo on Argentina, I would suggest that you consider whether such a move would improve the situation of the Jewish community in Argentina. I do not think so.

[Ahime'ir] You believe that its situation would worsen?

[Arens] I am afraid so.

[Ahime'ir] Finally, Prof Arens: Perhaps a family question, if I may describe it so. Do the statements of your brother — Prof Richard Arens — in the United States embarrass you?

[Arens] I would not say that they embarrass me. This is a sad case. My brother is a bachelor, detached from the entire family — not just from me but also from my sister. In fact, I am the only one who kept in contact with him throughout the years and I am simply sad to witness his behavior and his situation.

[Ronen] You have not had any contact with him in the last 1 or 2 years?

[Arens] Because he did not want to. I am not a man who believes one should sever contacts with people who have different views, certainly not within the family. Well, this is rather bizarre behavior.

[Ahime'ir] Defense Minister Prof Arens: I thank you for coming to the Moqed studio. I also thank my colleagues, Yoram Ronen and Dan Scemama, and the viewers at home.

David Levi Assesses Redeployment

TA151134 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 15 Jun 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by Ilan Kfir and Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpt] Speaking to *Ma'ariv* correspondent Barukh Me'iri, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi yesterday confirmed that the IDF will soon redeploy along new lines in Lebanon.

"The moment we began negotiations toward the agreement with Lebanon," Levi said, "we made it clear to the United States that Israel would not be able to wait for a long time to implement it. We said that if the Syrians and the terrorists do not leave Lebanon, Israel will redeploy as it finds necessary, and that the chief motivation and consideration for this redeployment will be maintaining our soldiers' safety and well-being."

Question: Has the United States been notified of how long we will wait?

Answer: "Definitely. We mentioned only a couple of weeks."

Question: Has the time we have "allocated" to the United States already run out?

Answer: "It is marginal." [ze gvuli]

IDF's Levi Views Situation

TA160716 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi thinks that even if a decision is received to reduce our deployment in Lebanon, this will be a gradual, slow process. Therefore there is no expectation of immediate relief that will come with the new deployment. The Chief of Staff lectured yesterday in front of cadets in the officers school:

[Unidentified correspondent — recorded] The chief of staff estimates that even if the IDF deployment in Lebanon can be reduced, this step will have to be coordinated with the other elements involved in solving the problem in Lebanon. We will have to show a lot of patience, Brigadier General Moshe Levi stressed, in order not to take a step we will regret the next day. The redeployment in Lebanon will be done to the extent and in the places compatible with clear Israeli interests.

The chief of staff noted that the signing of the agreement with Lebanon surprised the Syrians and gave impetus to the real process of solving the problem of Lebanon. The chief of staff was asked why the IDF is not utilizing its experience in ending hostile terrorist activity, experience learned in Gaza and the Jordan

Valley, in its war against the terrorists in Lebanon. Brig Gen Levi answered that in Lebanon the IDF does not take the same punitive steps and does not use systems which enable an almost total closure of places where there is terrorist activity. According to him, Lebanese residents from various sects take part in the hostile activity. Most of the detainees in the Ansar camp today are detainees caught after the first month of the war in Lebanon, who were caught following intelligence information or after carrying out a terrorist act.

The chief of staff said that the Syrian prisoners, about 300 — among them senior officers and pilots — expressed resentment that the Syrian Government does not act faster for their release.

Yesterday, Levi visited the officers school, where he met with officers and cadets. Later on he visited an armored brigade and watched an exercise. [end recording]

Sharon Criticizes Multinational Force, UNIFIL

TA151221 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 15 Jun 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Paris by correspondent in France Gid'on Kuts]

[Excerpt] Paris — Minister Ari'el Sharon yesterday accused the Multinational Force troops stationed in Beirut and the UN soldiers of providing shelter for the terrorists who are attacking Israeli units.

"It is the Multinational Force's job to fight against the terrorists, and certainly not to provide a wall or shield behind which they can hide," Sharon said in an interview with the "Europe-1" radio station. He said hundreds of terrorists have returned to Beirut and have found refuge behind the above-mentioned forces' deployment. The solution to this, in Sharon's opinion, involves a change in the deployment of the forces, and in granting the authority and responsibility for security in Beirut and its environs to the Lebanese Army. Perhaps it would be advisable to reinforce that army with the Multinational Force.

Sharon again denied that he had misled the government in the course of the war. On his present predicament, he said: "I am the only defense minister who has gone back to driving a tractor because Christians killed Muslims." At the same time he expressed his readiness to serve in any future government Begin might set up.

Peres Speaks for Commission of Inquiry

TA151102 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0931 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Speech by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres in the Knesset debate on the motions to establish a commission of inquiry on the Lebanese war]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorary Knesset: Last night when I heard about the illness of the deputy prime minister, I was very worried and I am extending to him from the Knesset rostrum wishes for a full and speedy recovery. Before I talk about the commission of inquiry I would like to say a good word about the Israeli Government. Yesterday and today I read in the press that the Cabinet has adopted the policy which we proposed 2 weeks ago regarding a redeployment in Lebanon; namely, the withdrawal of the IDF forces from those parts of Lebanon in which its presence is unnecessary. Are you saying anything, Mr Foreign Minister?

[Unidentified correspondent] The foreign minister is apparently protesting the definition whereby the Cabinet adopted the opposition's proposal.

[Peres] I have grounds to believe that the papers did not learn this out of the blue, and I am not impressed by other denials. It is about time that you do this. The faster you reach these conclusions, the better for the state.

Mr Speaker, Knesset members: There are issues which the people should judge. The government's policy failure and the miserable Lebanese war will be judged by the nation, and soon enough I believe. There are moves which history will judge. The process of the conversion of the democratic Jewish state into a state which may be partly Jewish and partly democratic, while blocking the approaches [mevo'ot] to peace — we will be judged on this issue by history. There are things we are not raising for debate and do not suggest to investigate them in this framework.

Military operations: It is accepted by us that the IDF has passed the supreme test of challenging regular and irregular forces in Lebanon, and that it has proven its ability. It is similarly clear to us that it has been particular with regard to human lives. It is in our interest — in the interest of all Knesset members — to maintain the nation's unity around the defensive force of the State of Israel. We are also not suggesting an investigation of the government's policy, or rather the absence of a governmental policy.

The matters are clear to all, beginning with the rescue of the Christians, while abusing the memory of the holocaust by operating two helicopters over the Sannin mountains — the act which triggered the entire affair — in the spring of 1981, and up to fostering the illusion about a new order in Lebanon, the creation of an illusion about a peace treaty with Lebanon, as well as the ridiculous illusion that the land would rest for 40 years. There was one illusion after another, one illusion smashing the other even before its reverberations died out.

However, there are things which require an urgent legal inquiry. I would like to remind the prime minister of how he reacted in two cases. When the murder in Ma'alot was perpetrated [in which children were killed by a terrorist squad] the prime minister, who was the opposition leader then, rose up and from the Knesset podium demanded [tava'] the establishment of a Parliamentary commission of inquiry which would encompass all parties. I do not know whether he remembers this. Second, when he became prime minister, he dared to establish a commission of inquiry into a murder which was carried out 50 years ago [the investigation of the Arlozorov murder]. A commission of inquiry on this issue yes, but not on the Lebanese war.

An urgent legal inquiry is necessary to investigate the facts, to

identify the people responsible for matters, to draw the appropriate conclusions about them, especially so as to prevent the repetition of grave mistakes in the future and also at present, in the immediate future, before the shooting in the quagmire of Lebanon has died down.

I am talking of mishaps which occurred in the Cabinet itself. After all, it is the Cabinet that gives the instructions to the IDF's General Headquarters. My question is topical: How does the Cabinet consolidate these instructions? How does it give them? How does it in fact receive information about what it decides on, and how are these instructions implemented in the area? We received two grave testimonies on these questions — in fact two public warnings for this Knesset, one by the Kahan Commission and the other by the members of the Cabinet themselves.

The Kahan Commission publicly warned that there are mistakes in the decisionmaking process by the policymakers. The commission talked about the policymaking authorities, not by any random committee. Second, there are mistakes in the method of handling the information received by these authorities. The commission pointed — and I am again quoting — to the lack of involvement on the prime minister's part in every issue, which puts a certain degree of responsibility on him. The commission also pointed out that the foreign minister, in a very grave case — and I am quoting again — did not digest or properly understand the meaning of things.

Still, before the public calmed down following the commission's conclusions, the deputy prime minister, Mr Simha Ehrlich — let me tell the Knesset members that when I heard he was hospitalized I thought maybe the debate should be put off; however, I reconsidered the matter and reached the conclusion that Mr Ehrlich considered what he did, that he in fact manifested civilian courage and proper governmental honesty, and there is no harm in quoting his remarks — who said on television, in an unusual and public move, that: There were irregularities in the course of the Lebanese war, sometimes acceptable and tolerable, and sometimes not. Intolerable irregularities in the course of a war?

The deputy prime minister detailed at least two such irregularities: First, when it was decided in the Cabinet to launch the war. According to Ehrlich, the intention was to reach a distance of 40 km north of Israel's border, and Minister Sharon also spoke of this line. However, the next day, when the prime minister was in the north, the Cabinet was convened and Sharon wanted to flank the major axis in the direction of Syria, which proves he wanted to deviate from the 40-km line. This is a most tragic deviation, the most tragic one in this war, a deviation the cost of which we have already paid in part and will continue to pay for in the future, to my deep regret.

Also in the name of the prime minister, not only Simha Ehrlich, a very grave announcement was made — and I hope that the prime minister will either confirm or deny it — as follows: There were operations which were approved in advance and there were operations which were approved post facto. What does this mean? Operations which were approved post facto means that these operations were carried out without approval, and the information given about them to the Cabinet, to the Knesset, and to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, was not correct. I would like to avoid the word "lie."

This is the key question then: What did the Cabinet approve before it gave the IDF an order to cross the border? Did it approve what is today called the small plan, of which we heard from the prime minister, the defense minister, and the foreign minister, or was the big plan carried out, the big plan the Cabinet rejected but implemented in the area in fact?

Former Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan is moving from one university to the other claiming that the IDF was never told that the objective was 40 km. Mr Prime Minister: How can this be? You are telling the Knesset that the objective is 40 km but you are not saying this to the IDF — how is this possible?

You also told us that you would not allow this war to deviate from its goals. We, all of the Knesset members, heard that this is the objective from the most authoritative person who can announce it: namely the prime minister, in the most reliable forum in the country: the Knesset.

The second irregularity, and I am again quoting Mr Ehrlich, concerned the decision to get to the Beirut-Damascus road. Mr Ehrlich, who was acting prime minister at the time, publicly states that he was given information which proved inaccurate later. Furthermore, it transpires, and I am again quoting him, that it was reported that the Syrians opened fire on the IDF forces. However, it became clear to him that fire was directed not only from the direction of the Syrians, but that there were provocations. I would like to ask the Likud members: What do you want of the opposition? All the information emanates from you, in public. What are you attacking us daily for? Establish order among your ranks, make an inquiry, tell the truth, honor the truth.

How is it possible, Knesset members, to let such matters go unnoticed? How is it possible to treat indifferently the authoritative claim that somebody, somehow, without the government's approval or knowledge, dragged the entire government, the people, and the army, once when the prime minister was not present at the Cabinet meeting and another time by provocation — this is not a word we invented — from a campaign limited in its intention and scope, a campaign well-defined in terms of area and time, to a long and bloody war, a hopeless war, against the government's will, contrary to its decisions, and contrary to the announcements delivered in the Knesset?

How can this be underrated? How can we settle these announcements with the equally grave statement by Minister Sharon — and I am taking an earnest view of his remarks — who claims, and I am quoting: The attempt at undermining things and demoralizing people was not started by the opposition; it rather emanated, Mr Foreign Minister, from the Cabinet itself first. Demoralization of the people by the government at the height of the war — is there anything graver? What do you really think, that only by attacks on the opposition is it possible to escape matters? Mr Sharon added, in his special way of talking: The noise of cannons has not died down yet and we already hear the roar of the activists. We have never expressed ourselves thus regarding the government.

This is indeed democracy at its best, to do good by the people thus. And you, Mr Prime Minister, you dare not say a word to him. You dare not deny or confirm this. You are not saying who was right. Was it the chief of staff, the defense minister,or the deputy prime minister? What is the fear?

Well, then, these three facts should be investigated, for the simple reason that they are a matter of vital public importance, as stated in the law on commissions of inquiries. This is a vital public matter no less important than the Arlozorov murder case. It is rather a more burning issue, [words indistinct] and a more painful one, since we are still given to a state of tension with our soldiers deployed along danger-fraught lines, with the danger of another conflagration not over yet, and with the government's composition and way of operation not at all guaranteeing that similar mishaps will not recur in the future. After all, we have the same prime minister, the same foreign minister, the same minister who was defense minister, and now a minister without portfolio, but still with considerable power within the Cabinet.

Furthermore, it is not our impression that the prime minister's involvement in vital affairs has increased lately. If anything, this involvement has decreased. We are not given the impression that the foreign minister's ability to digest information has soared to incredible heights, and it is to be doubted whether today, too, he understands the full meaning of the remarks he himself makes in the domestic arena. His remarks are very grave, remarks which are intended to cause a split in the people.

As Begin himself once described events in a governmental body [guf memshalti] — this is how he called the government once — this description fits the present situation: A body full of contrasts, torn inside by rivalries, jealousy, sympathy, and antipathy, with antipathy greater than sympathy. I have quoted Mr Begin here.

On Sunday the Cabinet adopted one of the two demands [tevi'ot] the former defense minister presented to it in an ultimatum-like matter. It released one of its most meaningless announcements under such grave circumstances. What did the Cabinet announce? It announced that it always has common responsibility for all its decisions. This is an evasive statement which gives rise to two questions.

The Cabinet is responsible for its decisions, but who shoulders responsibility for the Cabinet's operations which were carried out without the Cabinet's decisions? Are you responsible only for the decisions, but not for the operations carried out without decisions?

Who is responsible for operations carried out on the basis of false information? Is this the entire Cabinet, each of the ministers? Also, those who shoulder the responsibility for these acts yesterday, will they shoulder responsibility tomorrow? Again, what use is there really for your common responsibility when the partners to the responsibility shirk their ministerial responsibility and refrain from drawing conclusions? How did Minister Sharon, an important minister in this Cabinet, put this? What can be done, he said, when the ministers escape responsibility? Is this a common escape by all of you? Have you all escaped and everyone is left an orphan?

The Cabinet is treating itself with mercy, unacceptable on other national levels. It grants itself numerous amnesties, but what will become of the country, of the war, of the necessary wisdom of moves, of the ways of implementation which require meticulousness and a degree of [word indistinct]?

Mr Speaker: A real democracy and an objective investigation are not adversaries. They complement one another. When a set of facts on a vital issue is disputed, one should delve for the truth. Truth is the best ally of a democratic regime.

Let me finish with what David Ben-Gurion said: There is nothing as cruel as the truth, and there is no more loyal friend than cruel truth. One should not or cannot escape the truth. We are proposing that the Knesset discuss the establishment of a commission of inquiry on these three facts without mixing in this the IDF, regarding which we are calling for respect and unity.

IDF Post Attacked Near Lebanese Village

TA151856 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1845 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 15 Jun (ITIM) — At noon today an IDF post about 3 km southeast of the village of Kamid al-Lawz was attacked by small arms fire from territory under Syrian control. There were no casualties.

The ITIM correspondent in the north reports that the soldiers at the post were busy with fortification work and they returned heavy fire toward the hill from which the shots had been fired.

At the end of last week fire was also opened at this post when the soldiers were busy with fortification work.

Report on POW Transfer to Libya Denied

TA151155 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1145 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine denies that the two Israeli prisoners held by the organization were transferred to Libya. A leftist Lebanese Parliamentarian had reported the transfer of the prisoners.

The front's spokesman denied this report noting that the two prisoners are held in the same place where they have been held to date. He refused to say whether the two are held in Syria or in the area under the Syrians control in Lebanon.

Shamir Interview Scores Alignment Behavior

TA160922 Tel Aviv Yoman Hashavu'a in Hebrew 17 Jun 83 p 9

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Adar Qeysari — date and place not given]

[Text] "What is happening today is beyond the limit. The Alignment has joined Peace Now. They are the same people. By joining Peace Now, the Alignment leaders have abandoned their political program and become more extremist than MAPAM."

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir came out with this grave accusation this week in an exclusive interview with *Yoman Hashavu'a*.

Question: How do you explain this behavior?

Shamir: They are behaving like this in order to overthrow the government — at any price — and not because they have changed their views. We know who stands behind all these acts. The Alignment specifically gives the narrow political interest preference over the national interest. Israel is proud of the fact that it maintains democracy even in a time of war, but they are making bad use of the freedom we are given by democracy. They are not only damaging security, but also democracy itself.

Question: In your opinion, how does the Alignment's behavior influence our political situation?

Shamir: The Alignment's demagogic and irresponsible war against Israel's legitimate government is weakening us and hardening the Syrian position.

Question: And is this, in your opinion, above all else a war that the Alignment is conducting over the wheel of power?

Shamir: Just so. Let us not forget how — in the not so distant past — certain Alignment members tried to influence U.S. congressmen to prevent the continuation of financial aid to Israel. All this in order to undermine the government's status. They did not succeed in this. Now they are trying to inherit the place of the Likud, which is in power, taking advantage of the blood and the difficulties caused to Israel in Lebanon. They have been behaving like this all along the way, with their conduct deteriorating all the time.

Ehrlich's Condition Considered 'Very Serious'

TA161046 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1025 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] The condition of Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich is now described as very serious. This was reported by Biqur Holim Hospital Director Prof Shlomo Stern to our correspondent Yinon Shenqar. Mr Ehrlich has been unconscious since this morning. His family, the prime minister, and his associates are being constantly updated on his situation.

ALGERIA

YSP Official Arrives With Letter for Bendjedid

LD141818 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 Gmt 14 Jun 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Political Bureau, secretary of the Central Committee, and president 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's personal envoy, arrived at the Houari Boumedienne International Airport this morning with a letter for Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN.

Meets Foreign Minister, Leaves

LD152333 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Mr 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the YSP Political Bureau of the PDRY, secretary of the Central Committee, and special envoy of President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, left Algeria yesterday [15 June] in the afternoon. He was seen off by brother Boualem Bessaiah, the minister of information.

The Yemeni envoy was received yesterday by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs. During the meeting, Mr 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir handed Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi a message from Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN.

LIBYA

Baghdad: Al-Qadhdhafi on Support for Fatah Rebels

JN141214 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] Nicosia — Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi has overtly expressed his support for the rebellious move that has been engineered by some Palestinian military elements in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' against the PLO leadership. Al-Qadhdhafi described the move as a clear-cut [word indistinct].

In press statements published by the Cyprus-based *Al-Mawqif Al-'Arabi, which is financed by Libya, Al-Qadhdhafi said the* Palestinian revolution is without a leader. He asked in this context: Is it Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] or Abu Salih? He admitted his failure in offering anything in service of the [Palestinian] cause because, as he put it, the present Palestinian leadership is completely crippled.

Al-Qadhdhafi described the PLO leadership as mercurial, pointing out that the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front will convene immediately once the situation within Fatah is settled. This is a clear indication of his support for the rebels.

The Libyan ruler called for declaring what he called a civil war against the regimes of Lebanon and the other Arab countries, claiming that such wars would achieve Arab unity.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi launched a feverish campaign against the Arab countries, declaring his opposition to the recent political contacts that have taken place among the leaders of the Arab Maghreb to enhance cooperation and solidarity among their countries. He claimed that such contacts and others are merely regional calls that should be scuttled, and that the those making these calls are not unionists [wahdawiyin]. He added: I consider the so-called Arab Maghreb gathering as an invitation serving the imperialist interests, and that the imperialists [word indistinct] from Washington and Paris.

Concluding his statements, Al-Qadhdhafi threw doubts on the Eritrean revolution and the Arabism of Eritrea, claiming that Eritrea is nothing but a province of the Ethiopian regime.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS: SDAR President on OAU Summit 'Verdict'

LD151342 Algiers APS in English 1020 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] SDAR (Liberated Territories), 15 Jun (APS) — "The Saharan people struggling for its legitimate right to national independence, has won a great victory through the historical verdict returned by Africa to the 19th OAU summit. It is also a victory of reason, rights and justice, Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president, Polisario Front secretary general, declared in Addis Ababa. "Indeed, Africa clearly condemned the expansionism and the aggression exerted on the Saharan people," Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz added.

In fact, he pointed out, the two parties in conflict, the Polisario Front and the Morocco Kingdom, have been pointed out (?and redesignated)...Africa damands through the solemn way of the heads of state conference that it directly negotiate conditions to reach a definitive peace.

On the same occasion, it paid tribute to SDAR for its decisive courageous and responsible contribution for the holding of the 19th summit, the Saharan head of state noted. This surely reinforces the Saharan people's noble struggle for the recovery of its liberty and its sovereignty he pointed out.

"Africa met in its 19th summit," the Saharan head of state noted, "decided unanimously of the way to be followed to reach peace, we appeal Morocco to recover and to take up the way of peace." "Regarding us, we take Africa to witness, and the international opinion, of our sincere willingness to negotiate with Morocco the end of this war which is doing harm to the Saharan people and the Moroccan people, threatens stability and security of the continent and is prejudicial to interests of its peoples. It is the reason why we declare ready to commit ourselves in the immediate application of decisions adopted by the whole Africa and invite Morocco to do the same — to reach a just and a lasting peace," Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz concluded.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Answers Questions on National Policy

EA151417 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Press conference given by OAU chairman and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, before national and international journalists at COPWE hall in Addis Ababa on 13 June; questions are read by announcer and Mengistu's answers are recorded]

[Excerpts][Announcer] An AFP correspondent asked: What will be the role of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC]after the party has been formed?

[Mengistu] Before answering the question, let me explain the characteristics and traits of our revolution and what it seeks to accomplish. I will not try to explain our revolution in detail at this time.

As of now, much work has been done, step by step, not only on the future system of government, but on the characteristics and mission of the government as well. Our revolution has combined social, economic, and political affairs. We have been preparing an infrastructure with regard to the characteristics and mission of the government. We have also been working on an infrastructure that will facilitate the task of endowing the future Ethiopian Government or state with the characteristics that it should have, and on one that will allow us to form the party in line with our aims and goals. The various social sections of our future party, or the bodies to be included in our governmental structure are the following: All-Ethiopia Peasants Association, Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association, Revolutionary Ethiopia Youth Association, All-Ethiopia Trade Union, and various professional associations which have contributed to the social, economic, and political growth of Ethiopia. All these form part of the underlying foundation of our party — soon to be established — or our government.

To return to the question, I will explain the relations between, or the essence of, our future party and the state. Our party is the sole vanguard leader of our society in ideological and class affairs. The other part, or institution of leadership which attends to the fulfillment of this duty is the state; or it is the institution in which the democratic participation and freedom of the Ethiopian people will emerge; or it is a people's system.

In addition to the party, the state contains two other elements: the legislative and the executive branches. Thus, we need three things: the party, the legislature, and the executive. The PMAC, or the Military Council, has been carrying out, with the consent of the people and in light of its historic responsibility, the activities of the party and of the legislative branch. As soon as the party is formed, it is obvious that it will take over the role of the party from the PMAC [as heard]. This means that (?the PMAC) will be governed by the party's principles, program, and leadership. When we say that its work at that time will be that of the legislative branch, we do so because the immediate national responsibility of the party is to establish a democratic peoples government. As soon as a people's tribunal is created, one in which the power and strength of the people emerges, the PMAC will cease to exist. The Ethiopian national democratic program reflects this. This is also the promise made by the PMAC to the people. This answers the question.

[Announcer] A *Time* correspondent asked: Can you explain the victories of the Red Star campaign, the results achieved in eliminating secessionists, and can you give us an idea what the future situation might be?

[Mengistu] As the correspondent and the others may realize, it is the role of the military to carry out development activities in a region and to protect and preserve the work carried out.

On the other hand, since these anti-people forces, who stand for destruction, have not been completely eliminated, efforts to rid society of this problem once and for all are continuing in the military sector. Just as the rebels once based their confidence and arrogance solely on the armed struggle, they have now realized that their aims and desires cannot be achieved through military means. As a result, they are completely weakened. Many of them have voluntarily returned to development work and to the revolutionary camp. Many of them have been wiped out. We do not do this of our own choice or because we believe in a military solution. We have been forced to do so by them because this is the only language they understand. Had it been left to us, we would have preferred to find a more constructive and peaceful solution.

[Announcer] The AFP correspondent asked: Can you explain to us if there are any steps being taken to improve relations between Somalia and Ethiopia?

[Mengistu] For Ethiopia, there is not only room but extensive prospects for a much better relationship with Somalia. The problem is that this desire is one-sided. As you all know and have seen in the political program we have pursued since our revolution, our aim, if possible, is to foster constructive good-neighborliness which is mutually beneficial for the lives and development of our people. We are even willing to establish a confederated popular democratic human front in the Horn of Africa, based on common factors, such as the similarity of our peoples and the land in the region.

But Somalia's reply opposes this. Somalia unleashed a policy of direct and flagrant aggression against us. It was a calculated invasion. This resulted in great destruction not wanted by the two peoples. We have reclaimed our land and reestablished our boundaries. We have returned our displaced people to their homes. We did not and do not aim to seek revenge for Somalia's aggression. But Somalia does not seem to have learned her lesson from destruction and defeat. I say this because the Somali regime has not stopped its expansionist policy, which is the cause of the escalating conflict between the two peoples and the destruction taking place.

Efforts are also being made to disrupt the peace and to terrorize our people in the border region by infiltrating bandits in a bid to achieve distorted desires. Efforts to increase tension in the region

by involving forces other than Ethiopians and Somalis continue. In short, while such a situation prevails, it is impossible to achieve our wish for good-neighborliness between the two peoples.

[Announcer] A UPI correspondent asked: How do you view Ethiopia's economic relations with the Western world?

[Mengistu] The situation is not new. As is pointed out in the economic regulations and directives issued since our revolution, it is our policy and desire to promote bilateral development based on mutual benefits and equality with any country, government, party, organization or people wishing to do so. This means there is no new and special [words indistinct].

Nor does it refer to East or West. The reason for this question could be our efforts to simplify the interpretation of the rules in order to clarify and simplify this economic policy. This situation will continue [as heard].

I would like to reaffirm our willingness to cooperate with all those who want mutual growth based on mutual benefits for our peoples, on equality, on noninterference in our internal affairs, and on terms that reflect our policy and are devoid of political pressure.

[Announcer] A correspondent from a Philadelphia newspaper asked: Mr Chairman, can you tell us what the chances and possibilities are for improving Ethiopian-U.S. relations?

[Mengistu] I would like to explain a little about the United States and Ethiopia. I do not think there is any contradiction between the Ethiopian and U.S. masses or the working people of Ethiopia and the United States. This must be clear. We Ethiopians admire and respect the people of the United States. We also have long-standing relations. If there is any contradiction between our people and the United States, it is between the U.S. system, its administration, and us. We have good diplomatic relations. As far as creating a better atmosphere is concerned, the trend is discouraging. We believe that any people has the unquestionable right to decide its own destiny.

We believe that people should follow their own beliefs and protect their freedom but should, on a general human level, solve their problems jointly through dialogue and not through force. The U.S. Administration does not hold such a belief. It is a government which currently gives strong support to apartheid, racism, and Zionism. The U.S. Government works against the efforts of people throughout the continent to decide their own destiny or to solve their social and economic problems. The U.S. Government is daily stepping up its anti-socialist and anti-democratic activities. It is clear that the inclination of the United States is not toward peace, but rather toward an increase in tension. This can be seen in the basing of its Rapid Deployment Force in various developing countries, and in its arms reduction policy and detente. [as heard] It is clear to all that because of this situation, the trend is toward drifting apart rather than toward coming closer together. This is my opinion.

[Announcer] The *Time* correspondent asked: Mr Chairman, can you explain, in general, what the land reform decree has achieved up to now and whether food production has increased or decreased as a result of this program?

[Mengistu] Our peasants have become the beneficiaries of their own labor and are their own masters, so they are satisfied, not only materially, but also morally. Productivity results from this moral aspect and it has increased, not decreased. This does not mean that productivity in the farms is high enough or that we are satisfied. Nor does it mean that we have satisfied our food needs.

This is true not because of the land reform decree or its application, but because of other problems.

[Announcer] A *Le Monde* correspondent asked: National military service affecting those between the ages of 18 and 30 was recently proclaimed. Can you tell us the aims of this?

[Mengistu] The victories of this democratic revolution are mostly for the peasants and the working class. The revolution also seeks to ensure the predominance of the workers and peasants. As this is so, a military force that stands for this cause and goal and that is made up of people from these classes is necessary. The decree was proclaimed in order to achieve this.

One of the main reasons why we want to implement this decree at this stage is because of our worry about the antipeople, antipeace trends in both the region and the world. If the time, place, and situation is favorable for these forces, it is impossible to realize the desires and aims of our peoples and to attain the economic and social development cited earlier.

Our revolution will enable Ethiopia to mobilize the necessary force whenever required in order to protect its integrity and independence, just as it has done for centuries. This, in short, is the theme and aim of the national military service decree.

Congolese Foreign Minister Departs 15 June

EA152117 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Summary] Comrade Pierre Nze, head of the External Relations Department of the Labor Party and foreign minister of the People's Republic of the Congo, left for home today after taking part in the 19th OAU summit and after signing a cooperation agreement between COPWE and the Congolese Labor Party.

Guerrillas Said To Check 'Abyssinian' Offensive

EA151715 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The forces of black colonialist Abyssinia launched a major offensive against the Somali Abo Liberation Front in the Manu district of Bale region at the beginning of this month.

The intrepid fighters of the Somali Abo liberation forces effectively checked the black colonialist Abyssinian offensive, killing 55 soldiers and wounding more than 30 others. Some assorted heavy and light rifles were captured from the Abyssinian enemy

soldiers. A very large quantity of ammunition was also captured from the Abyssinians.

During the engagement, the liberation forces lost five martyrs, while six others were wounded. The report adds that the Abyssinians launched their offensive from the area of Nagele.

KENYA

Constitutional Affairs Minister Called Traitor

EA160815 Nairobi Kenya Times in English 16 Jun 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Parliament was told yesterday that the minister for constitutional affairs, Mr. Charles Njonjo, was the traitor. The minister was also warned never to assume the presidency of Kenya.

The warning was issued by the minister for tourism and wildlife, Mr. Elijah Mwangale, when Njonjo came under heavy fire for what was reported to have transpired at Pcea Rungiri Church in Kikuyu constituency on Sunday.

Njonjo was among the 3,000 people who attended the service. Mwangale who was wildly applaused by the members, warned Njonjo: Never make another mistake to try to assume the presidency of this country. Njonjo interrupted him with a point of order demanding Mwangale to substantiate his claim. If you ask anybody in this house and outside as to who the traitor is they will turn to honourable Njonjo, Mwangale replied amid thunderous applause. He told the house some of us are over 40 and we have got children and grandchildren. We want the peace and stability that has brought the country to where it is.

Mwangale was interrupted by Njonjo once again demanding substantiation as to the evidence that I am the traitor. Njonjo who was being shouted down by some members said it was all very well to make statement under protection. He challenged Mwangale to repeat what he has said outside the precincts of this house.

Earlier Mwangale had told the house that yesterday was the saddest day of his life since he went to Parliament. He said what transpired when President Moi took over leadership of the country had nothing to do with what happened at Rungiri last Sunday. What went on at Rungiri, he said, was a symptom of what has been going on.

Earlier Njonjo who was shouted down by members when he said that when he saw the *Daily Nation* headline he asked himself whether it was genuine or was mischief. He said he concluded it was mischief. As he was speaking, the speaker, Mr Fred Mati, ordered members to give Njonjo time. When he took the floor, he said he was not defending himself but he was explaining what happened to clear the air.

Entry Restrictions Confirmed for RSA Travelers

AB151230 Paris AFP in English 1210 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Nairobi, June 15 (AFP) — Kenya has introduced severe entry restrictions for all travellers coming from South Africa, tourist industry sources said. The measures, which came into effect last week, affect all nationalities, and tourists as much as businessmen.

The restrictions have not been officially announced, but have been officially confirmed, the sources said. No reason has been given for the measures. South African radio on Monday said they had been taken in retaliation for the execution last week of three ANC (African National Congress) guerrillas in Pretoria. The Kenyan immigration service refused to comment, but its chief, Mr. M.J.K. Mutua, was quoted by the *Kenyan Times* as saying that travellers from South Africa were no longer authorised to enter the country.

Various sources said there was a certain confusion when flights arrived from South Africa. Some passengers were simply sent back, while others have had to wait several hours before being able to leave the airport. Passengers in transit have not been affected however. Among those affected have been tourists on package tours of Africa, above all Americans and Japanese, who often arrive in South Africa and then go on to Kenya. Most of the main European airlines operate flights between Nairobi and Johannesburg. The Kenyan capital has more flights to Johannesburg than to any other African destination.

SOMALIA

Minister Says Ethiopia Preparing To Attack

EA151222 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The foreign minister of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, disclosed at a press conference this morning, attended by diplomats and correspondents from international news agencies, that the Abyssinian regime has massed a large number of troops on the common border with the intention of launching an attack on the SDR.

The minister, who held the press conference at the ministry's conference hall, stated that, with the support of its allies, Abyssinia is carrying out military exercises and is preparing to attack Somalia, thus worsening the already unstable situation in the Horn of Africa. Challe Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre noted that Abyssinia's military preparations are administered by senior officers and advisers from Russia, Cuba, and Libya. The minister added that Abyssinia is using mercenaries in its attempts to attack the central-northern regions of the SDR. It is also trying to create discord and conflict among the Somali people it colonizes and those at the border. The aim of this is to endanger the security of the SDR.

More on Minister's Statements

NC151629 Paris AFP in English 1618 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Mogadishu, June 15 (AFP) — Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre today charged that Ethiopia was poised for a new offensive against Somalia's central and northern regions.

In a clear reference to the Ethiopian-based Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF) aiming to overthrow the government of President Mohamed Siad Barre, he criticized the media for labelling as "guerrillas" the "mercenaries and traitors at the pay of colonialism and hegemonism." "Guerrillas are freedom fighters who are struggling for the achievement of their people's basic rights for self-determination and national independence," he said.

The minister's statement came two days after Ethiopian head of state Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, who became chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) last week at the OAU summit in the Ethiopian capital, slammed Somalia at a press conference in Addis Ababa.

According to Mogadishu, two pockets of central Somali territory at Balanballe and Galdogob have been occupied since July last year by Ethiopian troops, but Ethiopia denies this, saying that they are occupied by the SSDF unassisted by Ethiopian forces.

Senior Military Officers Reportedly Arrested

EA152303 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Reports reaching us from Mogadishu state that the regime has arrested four senior military officers. According to reports from Belet Uen, the capital of Hiran region, the commander of the division of the SDR Armed Forces stationed in Mudugh region, central Somalia, is among those arrested.

The reports have not confirmed the reasons for the arrests carried out by the Mogadishu regime, but it is believed that they were opposed to the obdurate policies of the regime headed by the dictator Siad Barre and the use of the SDR Army to oppress the general public.

Government Disarming Opponents, Clashes Reported

EA152325 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 15 June 83

[Text] A report reaching us from the regions of Hiran, central Scebeli, and Benadir states that loyalists troops have been ordered to disarm those members of the general public who are opposed to the regime headed by the dictator Siad Barre.

The report adds that the loyalist troops have unleashed a wave of inhumane acts against the general public. This includes the oppression of the people, the looting of their property, and the raping of Somali women living in and around the regions of Benadir, central Scebeli, and Hiran.

Last Thursday, the general public of central Scebeli region ambushed a convoy of the emergency unit of the Somali police between Giohar and Mogadishu, killing 14 policemen. Hasan (Hanaf) Adan of the Ministry of Livestock also died in the same attack.

In Jalalaqsi, another confrontation between the loyalist troops and the general public resulted in the death of 4 soldiers and the wounding of 18 others.

GHANA

GUNA Statement Seeks Sanctions Against RSA

AB160830 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] There have been renewed calls for additional assistance for freedom fighters in southern Africa as the continent commemorates the International Day of Solidarity with the struggling people of South Africa today. The day also marks the seventh anniversary of the Soweto uprising.

In a statement, the Ghana United Nations Association, GUNA, asked the United Nations to employ all means at its disposal to cause the effective imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against South Africa, a necessary prerequisite to the effective implementation of Resolution 435, which includes UN plans for Namibia's independence. GUNA said the struggle of the peoples of South Africa has reached a most crucial stage and the apartheid machinery shows for all intents and purposes an overwhelming level of desperation. It said South Africa's activities are a danger to the peace and security of Africa. GUNA also urged the West to end its political partnership with the apartheid regime regarding the Namibian problem.

Death Penalty To Be Imposed for Cocoa Smuggling

AB160810 Paris AFP in English 0743 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Accra, June 16 (AFP) — Anyone caught smuggling cocoa across Ghana's borders will be sentenced to death by firing squad, a top judge has warned.

Inaugurating a regional court at Sunyani, northeast of here, the judge, George Agyekum, chairman of Ghana's Public Tribunal, said a drive to check the smuggling of goods, including food, would begin in the area soon. He urged the local court not to spare the professional cocoa-smuggler.

The Public Tribunal jailed four people for a total of 18 years for smuggling 470 bags of cocoa to Ivory Coast when it sat at Sunyani last weekend.

Refinery Closes for Repairs; Supply Adequate

AB160850 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] The Tema refinery has been closed down temporarily to enable repair on two of the three boilers to be undertaken. It isanticipated that the repairs will be completed by Monday.

A statement issued yesterday by the Ministry of Fuel and Power assured the public that there are sufficient petroleum products in stock for supply to motorists until the refinery commences operation. The statement said that the Petroleum Department has already concluded arrangements for the supply of crude oil so that the refinery can resume normal operations when repairwork is completed. Until the refinery commences operations, theallocation of petrol to the market has been temporarily reduced. The allocation of diesel, however, has not been affected.

The statement said that in spite of the shutdown, a special exercise of lifting fuel to the Northern, Upper-East, Upper-West, and Brong Ahafa Regions is still continuing.

UPPER VOLTA

Demonstration in Support of Ouedraogo Planned

AB152017 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Since yesterday, Tuesday, the (?residence) of former President Maurice Yameogo in Koudougou has been the site of meetings held by the population of the Center-West region. The purpose of these gatherings is to organize a demonstration on Saturday, 18 June in support of the head of state, Major Dr Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. The march will begin at dawn in Koudougou and will cover a distance of 98 kilometers.

According to the UPPER VOLTAN PRESS AGENCY, the population of Center-West wants to use the opportunity to denounce political adventurism and what they call the "Chadization" of Upper Volta.

ANGOLA

Jorge on Talks With Spain, U.S. Recognition

AB151255 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola's external relations minister, Paulo Jorge, completed his official working visit to Spain. Before his departure for home he addressed a group of newsmen and outlined the extremely cordial and friendly relations existing between the People's Republic of Angola and Spain [words indistinct] in the successful holding of the talks between the two sides.

During the talks, the two sides outlined the existing relations and how to expand them. Spain is to assist Angola in the fields of agriculture, industry, health, and the construction industry. The two sides also jointly discussed the international situation, especially the conflicts in Central America, southern Africa, and the Middle East.

Paulo Jorge said the People's Republic of Angola is considering increasing its oil sales to Spain to pay for goods supplied by the (?latter). The Angolan ambassador in Lisbon will also act as non-resident ambassador to Madrid. Paulo Jorge stated that Spain has had a resident ambassador for almost 4 years. He also announced that he had extended an invitation to his Spanish counterpart to visit Luanda at a time convenient to him.

Paulo Jorge in his press conference also dismissed rumors that the U.S. is about to recognize the People's Republic of Angola and that an agreement has been reached on the Namibian independence question. He underlined that the U.S. continued linking the decolonization of Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola (?in exchange for recognition).

Jorge Cites Reservations on Ties With Portugal

MB150623 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] In Madrid, Spain, today Comrade Paulo Jorge, the Angolan foreign minister, expressed his reservations about the future of Portuguese-Angolan relations, saying that he does not know the foreign policy program of the new Portuguese Government. It is only after resuming contacts that we should be able to see how these relations are going to develop. This is what Comrade Paulo Jorge said in a statement he made to the Portuguese news agency ANOP in the capital of Spain, where he concluded his 2-day official visit today.

Our relations with Portugal, the Angolan foreign minister emphasized, have never been very good for various reasons, but I believe that this now will also depend on the course of relations to be followed by the present government toward African Portuguese-speaking countries. To maintain a perspective on the course of relations, he went on, it is necessary to maintain bilateral contacts to define the nature of relationships and cooperation. Comrade Paulo Jorge also underlined the important role played by the president of the Portuguese Republic, General Ramalho Eanes, in relations between the People's Republic of Angola and Portugal.

On Portuguese-Angolan cooperation during the period of the former Portuguese Democratic Alliance government, the Angolan foreign minister said that relations were normal, but could have been better if the previous government had taken positions regarding the presence and activities of Angolan counterrevolutionaries on Portuguese territory.

MPLA Central Committee Meeting Begins

MB151954 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The 12th ordinary session of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee has been underway in Luanda since this morning. The meeting is being chaired by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

It is noted that during the last session, held from 30 November to 8 December, 1982, the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party examined and approved the reports presented by the Political Bureau, the Central Control Commission, and the Defense and Security Commission. Similarly, during the 11th session, Central Committee members examined the organization of the party, political and ideological education, propaganda and counter-propaganda, and issues which contribute to the proper functioning of party structures, such as new methods of filling quotas and the organization of activity in propaganda and counter-propaganda.

Missionary Reportedly Shot in Huila Province

AB151235 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Joana Presley, a Swedish missionary working in the Angolan province of Huila at the Caluquembe mission, is reported to be recovering after receiving two bullets shots to her right leg by a band of mercenaries at the service of racist South Africa. Joana Presley fell in an ambush by a band of mercenaries along the Capuna-Caluquembe road when she was taking six patients to the hospital. The victim indicated that she was intercepted by a group of armed men with military uniforms of the Portuguese colonial troops. Joana Presley has been in the People's Republic of Angola since 1973 and has been working at the Caluquembe Evangelical Mission since 1977.

BOTSWANA

Chinese Youth Delegation Begins Visit

MB141600 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] A four-man Chinese Communist Youth League delegation arrived here yesterday afternoon from (?Chad). The men, who are guests of the Bechuanaland Democratic Party [BDP] youth wing, will be in Botswana until Friday.

The delegation yesterday evening met with the National Executive Committee of the BDP youth wing. This morning they will visit the Botswana Meat Corporation in Lobatse and at 1400 in the afternoon they will leave to the Rural Institute's Innovation Center in Kanye and also meet youth members of the BDP Kanye branch. They will visit the Gaborone Secondary School tomorrow morning and then [word indistinct] village, where they will go to (Sebile). While at (Sebile) they will visit the Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture. In the evening they will attend a dinner at (Seluka) Hall hosted by the BDP National Youth Executive Committee.

On Thursday the delegation will visit the Institute of Administration and Commerce and then leave for (Pologadiweng Gobani). From there they will go to (Khlokweng) Rural Development Center, [word indistinct] Rehabilitation Center, (Makale) Secondary School and [words indistinct]. In the evening of the same day they will join guests at a dinner at the Chinese Embassy, hosted by the Chinese ambassador to Botswana, Mr Wang Rensan. On Friday morning they will pay courtesy calls on the vice president, Mr Peter Mmusi, and the minister of public service and information, Mr Daniel Kwelagobe.

PRC Group Tours Centers

MB151408 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The Chinese Communist Party Youth League delegation which is currently visiting Botswana at the invitation of the ruling Botswana Democratic Party [BDP], yesterday visited Lobatse Secondary School and then went on to the Botswana Meat Commission, [BMC] for a guided tour of the complex.

After the tour the assistant minister of agriculture, Mr (Gaotlhaetse Matlhabaphire) presented the delegation with a souvenir of long polished horns joined together with a leather strap with the word BMC engraved on it. The horns were accepted by the leader of the delegation, Mr He Guangwei, who is vice president of the All-China Youth Federation and a member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League.

They then went on to Kanye, where they saw the Rural Industries Innovation Center. Here they were shown bio-gas digesters, solar-powered water disseminators, and windmill test sites. At the tannery they were shown how leather was treated with [word indistinct] made with powders from local skins.

The delegation later went to the new complex of BDP offices and were introduced to local BDP members and councillors. The four-man delegation comprises Mr (Hi), the leader of the delegation, Mr (Dou), deputy head of the All-China Youth Federation, Mr (Yuang), deputy head of the research group in political economy of the league school, and Mr (Zang), the English interpreter and member of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League.

LESOTHO

Opposition Leader on ANC Attacks Against RSA

MB151430 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The leader of the United Democratic Party in Lesotho, Mr Charles Mofeli, says the African National Congress cannot expect South Africa to sit back and watch the organization launching attacks on it. Interviwed by our Bloemfontein news office, he said that it was well-known that the ANC wanted to bring down the South African Government. The ANC also knew that violence would be countered with violence. It was a great pity that in the process property was being damaged and innocent people killed.

Referring to developments in Lesotho, Mr Mofeli said that when the prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, suspended the Lesotho Constitution in 1970 he said that he wanted to prevent the country falling into the hands of the communists. Now, 13 years later, he was the very man who was establishing diplomatic relations with the communists.

He said he believed that Dr Jonathan's behavior was ANC-inspired. Mr Mofeli also referred to the planned general election in Lesotho. He said his party was prepared to take part but it feared for the safety of its candidates and supporters. People were being forced to join the ruling Basotholand National Party. If his party were to win the election, he would try to establish diplomatic relations with South Africa. He would also be prepared to sign a nonaggression pact with South Africa.

MADAGASCAR

Foreign Minister Returns From OAU Summit

MB151034 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The Malagasy foreign minister, who took part in the proceedings of the 19th OAU summit in Addis Ababa, told the press on his return home yesterday that 14 resolutions were adopted by the assembly of heads of state and government. Some of the specific topics covered by the resolutions were the question of the Western Sahara, Namibia, the organization's budget for 1983-84, the Middle East, Palestine, and the application of the [words indistinct].

On Namibia, Mr Christian Remi Richard said Madagascar proposed the sending of an international force which would supervise movements in the territory after the Namibian people gained independence.

He also reminded his audience that the 19th OAU summit meeting was unable to elect a new secretary general. Peter Onu

of Nigeria will assume the responsibilities of secretary general until the election of a successor to Mr Edem Kodjo. The next OAU summit, Mr Christian Remi Richard confirmed, will be held in Conakry.

MOZAMBIQUE

French Fund Officials Arrive To Visit Projects

MB150913 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1600 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] The director general and the deputy director general of the French Central Economic Fund, (Roland Billecart) and (Jean-Pierre Gaunont) respectively, arrived in Maputo today. They are visiting Mozambique to inspect development projects financed by their economic institution which, according to a note published by the Bank of Mozambique, involve hundreds of millions of French francs. The French fund cooperates with Mozambique in the fields of agriculture, railways, and textiles.

Machel Receives French Officials

MB151014 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Yesterday in Maputo, President Samora Machel received (Roland Billecart), director general of the French Central Economic Fund, who is visiting our country at the invitation of the Mozambique authorities. The newspaper *Noticias* reports that the visit by (Roland Billecart) is part of the overall effort made in recent years by the Central Economic Fund to develop its cooperation with Mozambique. (Roland Billecart) will personally inspect the projects that are being carried out in Mozambique with the support of the French institution.

The main areas of cooperation with the Central Economic Fund are agriculture, railways, and textiles. The development of cotton production and industry in the Caia region of the Zambeze Valley and the renovation of cotton factories in Montepuez, Nampula, Namialo, Monapo, Mocuba, and Namapa are among the projects with which the French institution is directly involved. According to *Noticias*, the French institution is likely to take part in other projects in Mozambique.

Minister Cites Drought Effects, International Aid

MB151222 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Aranda da Silva, the minister of home trade, said in Maputo yesterday that the losses caused by the drought throughout the country amounted to millions of contos. Due to the drought, more than 1.3 million tons of grain and manioc were lost in the early season crops. In his capacity as vice president of the Commission for the Prevention and Fight Against Natural Disasters, the minister of home trade pointed out that the ill-effects of such a disaster are felt, with the exception of Niassa, Cabo Delgado, and the upper Zambezia region, in almost every province of the country. He said that the disaster may directly touch more than 4 million people. The minister of home trade stressed that the areas most dramatically affected by the drought are in the southern part of the country, and he mentioned the Chiqualaquala, Mabote, Govuro, and Vilanculos areas.

The minister of home trade considered the response by the international community to the appeal made by our government in view of this situation to be highly positive. Among the countries and organizations which have answered our appeal, Aranda da Silva mentioned Zimbabwe, the USSR, the United States, the EEC, the Red Cross of the FRG, the World Food Program, the Lutheran World Federation, and others.

The minister of home trade said that contracts have been signed with the PRC and Portugal for assistance in restoring agricultural production. Both countries will supply large quantities of production tools, namely hoes, pangas, axes, files, and other tools required by the family and cooperative sectors. Plows will be locally manufactured.

SOUTH AFRICA

Zimbabwean Government Contacted on ANC Terrorists

MB151711 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1602 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The South African Government has contacted Zimbabwe's government in connection with ANC terrorists who last week entered the republic from Zimbabwe, the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, confirmed today.

Responding to inquiries on the matter in Cape Town Mr Botha said it was not considered desirable to reveal the contents of the government's message to Zimbabwe.

"The South African Government has contacted the Government of Zimbabwe concerning the question of the two ANC terrorists captured on June 11 who said they entered South Africa via Harare from Maputo," Mr Botha said.

It was announced by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, on Monday that it had been discovered on June 10 that four ANC terrorists had entered South Africa from Zimbabwe after cutting through the border fence in the Messina district of the Northern Transvaal. Joint follow-up action by the police and Defence Force had led to the arrest of two of the insurgents and the seizure of their arms and ammunition on June 11. The other two had escaped back into Zimbabwe.

The minister said that according to information the four had flown from Maputo to Harare on June 8.

Mr Botha said today: "It is not considered desirable to reveal the contents of the South African Government's message to Zimbabwe at this stage."

Three Hanged ANC Terrorists Buried Secretly

MB151250 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1130 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Pretoria, June 15, SAPA — The three ANC terrorists hanged last week were buried secretly in Mamelodi on the outskirts of Pretoria yesterday. About eight police vans were seen moving to the township's graveyard at about 9:30 am. Eyewitnesses said some of the vehicles were parked outside, guarded by camouflage-uniformed police.

Sources confirmed that the burial was that of the three men. The Prison Department would not confirm or deny that the men were buried in the cemetery. A department spokesman said it was policy to give information only to the families of the deceased if they should ask for it.

Thelle Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Semano Mosololi and Marcus Thabo Motaung were sentenced to hang for acts of terrorism.

Pretoria Military Aid to Transkei Reported

AB151400 Paris AFP in English 1238 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] Johannesburg, June 15 (AFP) — The Transkei has received 30 million dollars from Pretoria to strengthen the counter-insurgency capacity of the South African "Homeland" Defence Force, reports here said. The boost for the bantustan's forces follows a visit to Transkei last year by senior South African military officers.

Transkei's defence force is being trained by former Rhodesian Selous Scout officers under the command of Lieutenant-General Ron Reid-Daly.

The authorities there recently expressed concern about the growing incidence of what they consider to be politically-motivated violence in the territory's rural areas. Since formal independence from Pretoria, they have detained and tried several suspected members of the African National Congress (ANC) who allegedly staged sabotage attacks in the eastern cape region.

ZAMBIA

Commission Seeks Details of Angolan Tin Study

MB150942 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] The Economic Commission for Africa-East and Southern African Regional Office in Lusaka says it is trying to get details of a feasibility study carried out into the production of tin iron by Angola with the assistance of the United Nations International Development Organization. Its study is aimed at finding ways of utilizing this tin iron locally by member states of the Preferential Trade Area [PTA] grouping to avoid the importation of finished products.

The Economic Commission for Africa consultant in iron (?skills), (Charles Okun), leaves for Angola this evening to make a follow-up on the implementation of recommendations of the sixth [word indistinct] meeting which resolved that member states of the PTA should buy shares in the tin iron products.

ZIMBABWE

'Direct Military Action' From RSA Expected

AB160925 Paris AFP in English 0855 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Harare, June 16 (AFP) — The government-controlled *Herald newspaper said today that white-ruled South Africa* would probably take direct military action against Zimbabwe, following Pretoria's allegations that black nationalist guerrillas had crossed onto its territory from this country.

South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha said yesterday that his government had sent Zimbabwe a message about two guerrillas of the African National Congress (ANC) who Pretoria says fled back into Zimbabwe after two of their comrades were captured by South African security forces last Friday while entering South Africa clandestinely and armed.

The Zimbabwe Government denied any captured guerrillas had been crossing from Zimbabwe, but has said nothing about the two who allegedly fled back here near the border town of Beitbridge. Nor was there any confirmation in Harare early today of the message from the South African Government which informed sources said might be a demand for the return of the two ANC men.

The Herald, in an editorial, said the South Africans had used military raids or the threat of such raids to bully several of their black neighbours into high-level discussions over Pretoria's allegations that these countries harbour ANC guerrillas.

"Not Zimbabwe", *The Herald* said. "The government here has resisted any attempts to cow it into negotiating at ministerial level with the South Africans. And for that, this country may soon be given special treatment... likely it will be direct military action", *The Herald* said.

The Zimbabwe Government has over the past two years accused South Africa of taking various steps to destabilize it, from hindering the transport of vital imports such as fuel and spare parts to sponsoring patrol-size incursions by South African security forces and Zimbabwean rebels trained in South Africa.

But this country has thus far been spared raids such as the South Africans have carried out against Mozambique and Lesotho, resulting in the loss of dozens of civilian lives, or invasion, as in the occupation of southern Angola by Pretoria's forces.

In a commentary last night, Zimbabwe's state radio noted that unlike the other front-line states Zimbabwe has a very sizeable white minority — about 150,000 in a total population of 7.6 million — many of whom have relatives living in South Africa and even serving in the South African Army. The radio suggested that any [words indistinct] would harm the interests of these people with links to South Africa.

Mugabe Comments on New Industrial Relations Bill
MB151229 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, said the new industrial relations bill, to be presented in Parliament soon, aims at creating democracy and equality at work. He told the 59th session of the International Labor Organization in Geneva today that the bill will extend recognition to the workers who were regarded as inferior by the past colonial regime. Comrade Mugabe said the bill, which replaces the notorious Industrial Reconciliation Act, will remove the oppressive legal institutions which regarded the worker as a mere instrument of production. He said Zimbabwe rejects capitalism because it is a philosophy of inequality.

The prime minister thanked the ILO for the support it gave to this country during the liberation struggle.